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FRIDAY'S JACKPOT
Lotto MAX
$28 MILLION
estimated

JACK SPARROW MARAUDS IN 3-D
AN EXCLUSIVE FIRST LOOK {page 35}

O: NO!
WINFREY SETS THE RECORD STRAIGHT {page 36}

TORONTO metro®
Thursday, December 9, 2010
www.metronews.ca
News worth sharing.

Revenge of the 'pinkos'

- Councillors show colours in response to Don Cherry's three-minute speech at Mayor Ford's swearing-in
- Remarks spark thousands of online comments

Don Cherry's tirade against "left-wing pinkos" at the swearing-in of Toronto's new mayor continued to make waves yesterday within city council and beyond.

Councillors staged a light-hearted protest that saw many wearing pink scarves, suits and accessories as they took part in the inaugural council meeting under newly-elected Mayor Rob Ford.

Some worry Cherry's speech at Tuesday's investiture — in which he blasted "pinkos," cyclists and the "left-wing" media — will damage Toronto's reputation as an inclusive and cosmopolitan city.

Nelson Wiseman, an associate professor of political science at the University of Toronto, said Cherry's "purposely provocative, purposely insulting" address makes Torontonians "look like hicks."

Most who commented online blasted Cherry for what they called divisiveness.

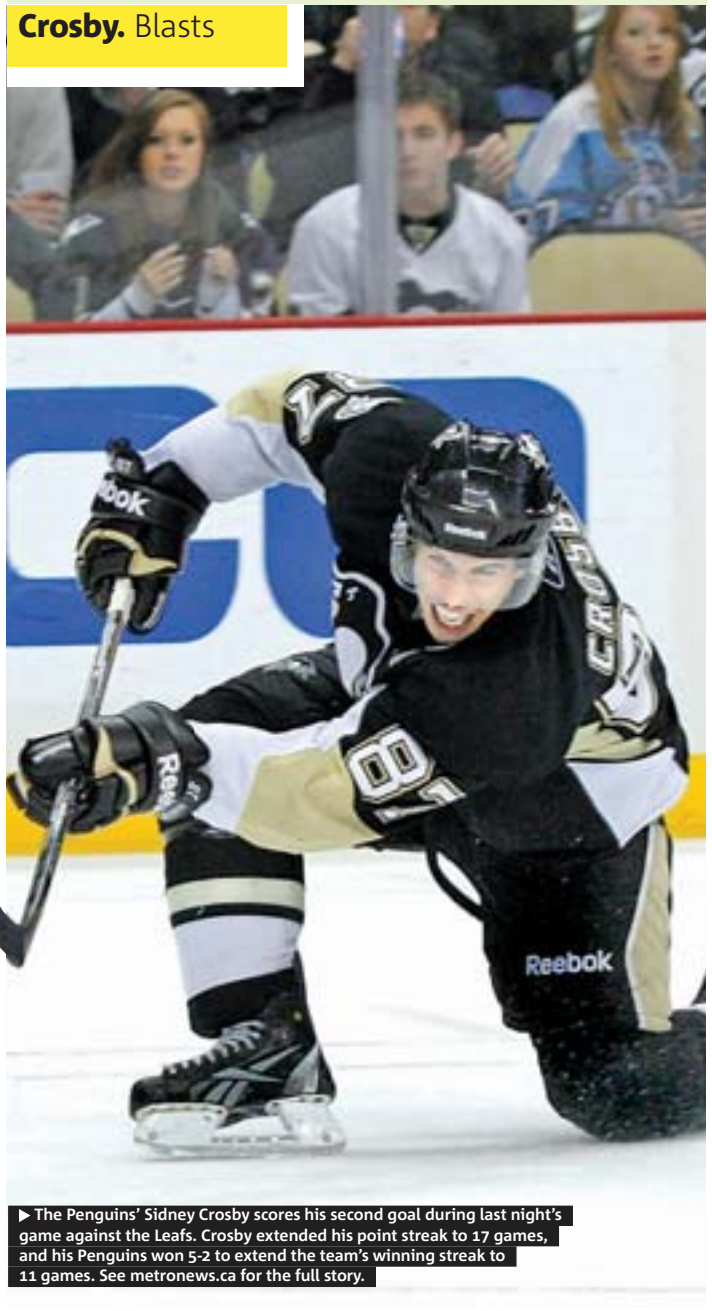
DAVID RIDER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"I wanted to wear pink today for council because I wanted to restore dignity to pink, and to the council chambers."
COUN. JANET DAVIS

Others stood up for him, saying he speaks to those Canadians ignored by the left.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/WITH FILES FROM TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Crosby. Blasts



▶ The Penguins' Sidney Crosby scores his second goal during last night's game against the Leafs. Crosby extended his point streak to 17 games, and his Penguins won 5-2 to extend the team's winning streak to 11 games. See metronews.ca for the full story.

KEITH SRAKOCIC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sid the Kid keeps it rolling

World news

Dozens die in blaze at Chile prison

- Fire erupts during riot
- Viewers hear victims' screams as inmate talks to state TV on cellphone
- President decries conditions {page 10}

Child-porn bust hits home

GTA men among those arrested in year-long sweep {page 3}

'We moved too quickly'

Premier, police chief face up to G20 missteps {page 16}

SALE FROM $2

Select items at $2, $5, $10 and $20 in all departments.*

*Items shown not included in the offer. While supplies last. Selection may vary by store.

Yonge-Dundas Square. Living gifts

▶ Actor Colin Mochrie lends his support to the World Vision Gift Catalogue event yesterday.

RICK EGLINTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Want an alpaca for Christmas? You could be in luck

Mochrie helped show off the collection of animals such as sheep, goats, pigs, chickens and an alpaca, above, all of which are actually available in this year's World Vision Gift Catalogue.

York U fellow, clown among those charged

Total of 57 men arrested in global child porn sweep, including seven in the GTA ◐ Twelve Canadian children rescued and taken into care ◐ Convicted B.C. sex offender also detained

An Anglican priest, professional clown, university researcher and residence don are among the Canadian men arrested in an international Internet child porn sweep.

The child exploitation and image trading network has been shut down with the arrests of 57 men, including 25 in Canada and seven in the GTA, police said yesterday.

Project Sanctuary began with the arrest of a priest in Newfoundland last December, a month after police intercepted images of child pornography during the initial online sting that soon spread to include 13 police agencies in Canada, the U.S. and Europe.

Investigators traced the images of 45 children, aged four to 15, which were produced and swapped on the Internet by men in North America and across the Atlantic. The images were of boys and girls. Some of the men arrested are not being identified because they are related to the victims, police say. Among those arrested in the Toronto area are York University fellow Richard Dyde, 47, and Toby Stimpson, 24, a York residence don, both charged with various counts of making available and possessing child pornography.

"It's terrible to watch what these children go through."
TORONTO POLICE DET. PAUL KRAWCZYK

Dyde was additionally charged with making child pornography.

Others arrested in the GTA are Jonah Whitehouse, 31, of Toronto; Erin Holder (a.k.a. Erin Wilson), 26, of Toronto; Michael Pellow, 68, of Toronto; Christopher Holowatyj, 20, of Newmarket; and Trevor Partridge, 44, of Bowmanville. Kevin Sheppard, 41, of Barrie also faces charges.

Randy Miller, 40, of Napanee, a professional clown known as Honker and a volunteer beaver scout leader, faces a sexual assault charge and two counts of making and possessing child pornography.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

1 news

With Arcade Fire topping charts and packing MSG, is it time to retire 'indie?' Scan code for story.

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On the web at metronews.ca

A freed Canadian hostage recounts his captivity in Nigeria. Video at metronews.ca.

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WEATHER

City issues extreme cold alert

Toronto declared an extreme cold weather alert yesterday, aimed at helping people who live on the street.

Outreach workers focused on convincing people to go inside, and provided transportation to shelters or places homeless people could stay overnight.

Environment Canada predicted the temperature could reach –12 C overnight.

The city also planned to open 171 additional shelter spaces.

Transit tokens were made available for people to get to shelters.

People seeking shelter from the cold, or those who know of someone needing shelter, can call city services at 311.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Man accused in crossbow killing appears in court

Victim had two domestic violence convictions involving his family

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A court sketch of Zhou Fang.

Zhou Fang told the court "I understand" yesterday when asked about his English comprehension of first-degree murder charges related to a mid-afternoon crossbow killing in a public library.

Fang, wearing an orange jumpsuit, appeared via video link before a justice of the peace in downtown Toronto. His case was put over until Dec. 22.

He spoke with his defence lawyer by telephone.

Fang, 24, from Ottawa, has been in custody since he was arrested in Scarborough last Thursday.

Earlier that day, his father, Si Cheng, was shot in the back with a crossbow and died inside the busy Main Street library, where children were attending an after-school program.

Reports suggest Fang suffered emotional and physical abuse from his father. He and his mother, Nora Fang, had obtained a restraining order against Cheng, according to the woman's divorce lawyer, Paul R. Krumeh. He said Nora Fang was "extremely fearful" of her husband.

Nora Fang had alleged that Cheng beat her, damaging her eyesight in one eye so badly she could no longer work as a teacher in Toronto, Krumeh said.

Her son witnessed that 2002 assault, for which Cheng was convicted.

Nora Fang and her son went into hiding from Cheng and left Toronto after the couple separated in 2002, Krumeh said.

The couple had emigrated to Canada in 1997 from China, where Nora Fang had been a university lecturer and Cheng had worked as a salesman at a chemical company.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Devin Horne, who takes care of the Sheppard LRT, is seen at Transit City's office at Midland and Sheppard.

Transit City officer the last man standing

Community liaison officer Devin Horne swears he isn't lonely or worried about his job, even though friends and family have been asking.

He understands their concern, given that he is the sole staff member at what could be the last outpost of the Transit City light-rail plan.

Once hailed for its potential to transform Toronto's suburbs, Transit City was declared dead last week by newly-minted Mayor Rob Ford.

Most of the TTC's Transit City employees immediately shifted their attention to a new Ford-ordered underground transit plan. But Horne remains in the Sheppard East community office near the Agincourt GO station.

"I aspire to help keep people informed, connect people with information and each other ... (and) cut through the fog of big projects."
DEVIN HORNE, TRANSIT CITY

Horne expects to stay there as long as construction continues on a rail bridge that will eliminate a level GO train crossing there by fall 2012. The TTC says that has to happen regardless of what kind of transit eventually gets built on Sheppard.

His job is to smooth the impacts of the Sheppard construction on nearby businesses and residents.

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The Great One leaves his mark on LCBO store

Gretzky part owns the Niagara Peninsula winery Each year, part of the proceeds go to his charity

MAIN: RICK EGLINTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE. INSET: KATIE DAUBS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Hockey legend Wayne Gretzky stops by the Summerhill LCBO to promote his wine.
▶ Inset photo: Gretzky's signature on a cabinet in the LCBO bathroom.

Wayne Gretzky left something for the ages in the Summerhill LCBO bathroom.

When he excused himself to use the loo during the Wayne Gretzky Estates wine tasting, nobody thought it was historic.

But after the tanned hockey legend left the building yesterday, manager Stewart Bailey made the exciting discovery: A white cabinet next to the paper towel dispenser has been defaced with a blue Sharpie: "Thanks for a Great Day! Your Friend Wayne Gretzky 99, Dec 2010"

"We have a book that celebrities usually sign," Bailey said. "This is the first time anyone's signed the bathroom wall."

As employees congregated in the bathroom, they talked excitedly of a new tradition.

"Maybe we can get Cynthia Dale to sign it, too," said one woman.

"Maybe we can spray lacquer it," Bailey offered.

"Of course he left the seat up," said a female employee.

The LCBO's staff aren't supposed to gush over celebrities. But when Gretzky casually walked in, staff had bottles autographed alongside customers and took photos with him. The Gretzky family encouraged this — none more so than Walter Gretzky, who was running bottles back and forth to make sure nobody felt left out. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Richmond Hill ISP backs WikiLeaks

An Internet service provider based in Richmond Hill is one of hundreds mirroring the controversial WikiLeaks website, which has come under fire for disclosing diplomatic documents.

David Gilbert, a technical worker for EI Catalyst Corp., responded to WikiLeaks' call for mirrors Sunday morning and set up the domain http://wikileak.eicat.ca. It's one of about 1,300 sites, including nine in Canada, that has cloned the original website and taken on some of its traffic load.

"The Internet is no longer just a collection of computers and routers and fibres. The Internet also includes the people and so, in this case, with WikiLeaks being under attack, the people responded," Gilbert said.

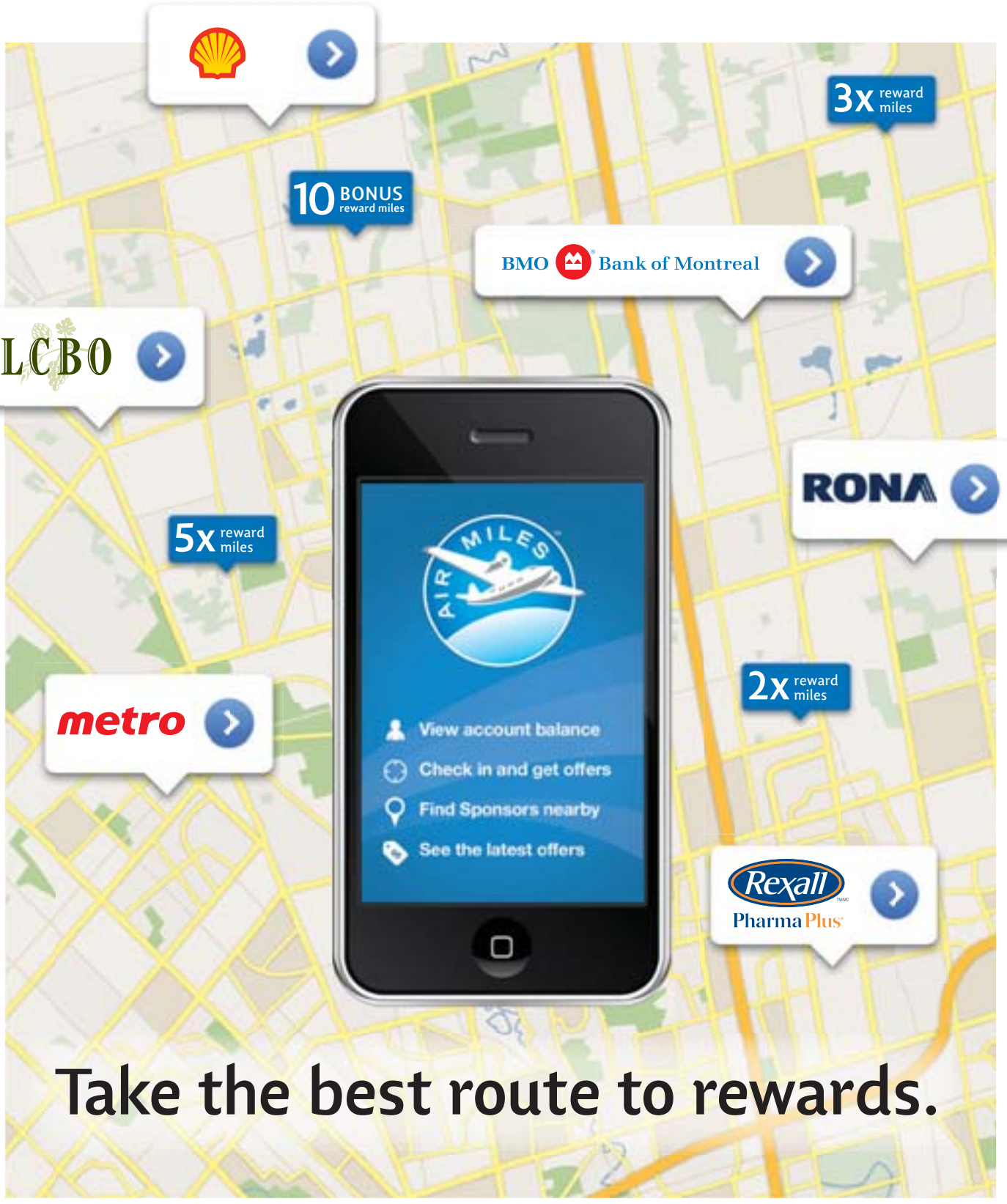
THOMAS COEX/GETTY IMAGES

▶ WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange's face is seen through a magnifying glass.

WikiLeaks moved its website address to the Swiss http://wikileaks.ch last week after two American Internet providers ditched it and Paris tried to ban French servers from hosting its leaked information database. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

'Uniquely ready'

- EI Catalyst Corp. is a small company that provides Internet to hundreds of individuals and businesses.
- It has been attacked for hosting controversial sites in the past, and David Gilbert said the company has defences that make it "uniquely ready to support a WikiLeaks mirror."
- Gilbert said he's doing his part to protect freedom of speech, and his colleagues unanimously agree.



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Who is your newsmaker of the year?

Was 2010 the year of **Hurricane Hazel** or does the gravy train stop with **Rob Ford?**

Maybe it was **Miller** time, or did **Dalton** dominate the headlines? Let us know who your Toronto newsmaker of the year is.

Who do you think had the most profound impact on the city in 2010. Did hip-hop megastar **Drake** do it for you, or did **Rachel McAdams** leave you star-struck? Were you inspired by Leafs GM **Brian Burke** during a difficult year on and off the ice, or is your top Toronto newsmaker someone else? It's time for you to decide. Tell us who rocked your 2010 and why. Voting ends Dec. 17.

Hackers attack Wikileaks' enemies

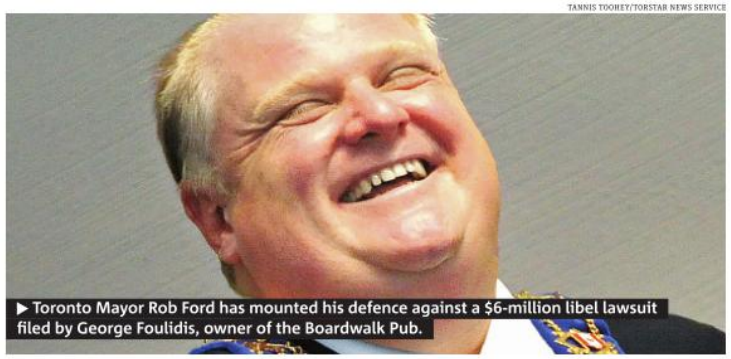
Hackers rushed to the defence of WikiLeaks yesterday, launching attacks on MasterCard, Visa, Swedish prosecutors, a Swiss bank and others who have acted against the site and its jailed founder Julian Assange.

Internet "hacktivists" operating under the label "Operation Payback" claimed responsibility in a Twitter message for causing severe technological problems at the website for MasterCard, which pulled the plug on its relationship with WikiLeaks a day ago.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

1M The online attacks are part of a wave of support for WikiLeaks that is sweeping the Internet. Twitter was choked with messages of solidarity for the group, while the site's Facebook page hit 1 million fans.

TANNIS TOOHEY/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



▶ Toronto Mayor Rob Ford has mounted his defence against a $6-million libel lawsuit filed by George Foulidis, owner of the Boardwalk Pub.

Ford fires back at Boardwalk libel suit

Mayor defends his comments as being in public interest Restaurant owner alleges he was exploited

Rob Ford says he was looking out for the public's interest when he told a local radio station "I truly believe" someone is getting money under the table in connection to the city's sole-sourced contract with a Beaches restaurant.

It is on this basis that Toronto's mayor has mounted his defence against a $6-million libel lawsuit filed by George Foulidis, owner of the Boardwalk Pub.

Foulidis has accused Ford of exploiting him and his family for political gain.

Gavin Tighe, the lawyer representing Ford, said Foulidis is the one with political motivations.

"Our position is we think this is a SLAPP (strategic lawsuit against public participation) lawsuit. We think this is a lawsuit designed to impede discussion on a public issue. If you look at what Mr. Ford actually said what he said it (was) about, it was a critique of the way city hall is conducting the affairs of the city," said Tighe.

The defence further claims Foulidis "issued this lawsuit to prevent Rob from being elected as mayor."

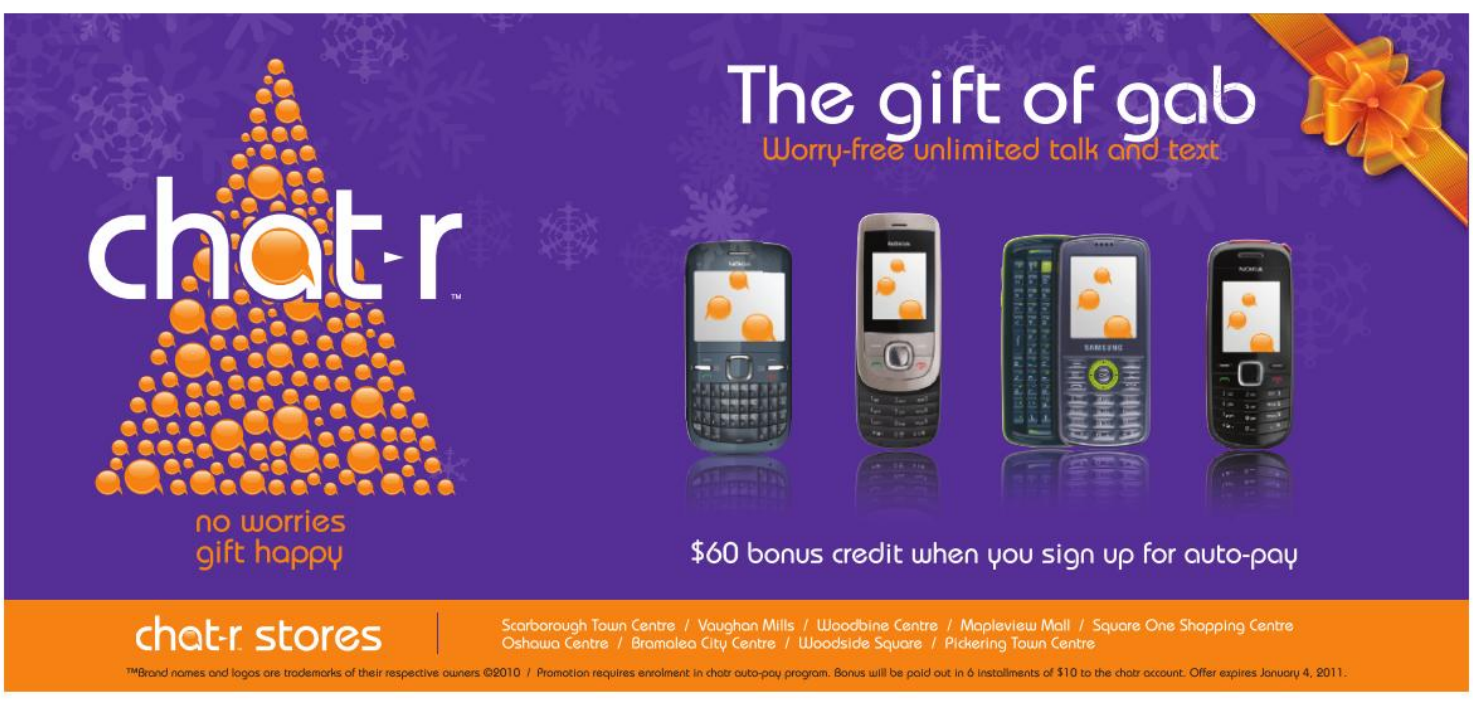
Foulidis filed the $6-million lawsuit two months ago after giving Ford, who was then the front-running candidate, an ultimatum: Apologize for suggesting he bribed city officials or face legal consequences.

None of the allegations made by either side have been proven in court.

In 2006, city council went against a staff recommendation and voted to extend the Boardwalk Pub's lease for 20 years, without opening the contract up to outside bidders.

At the time, former councillor Sandra Bussin made the argument the family business had done a good job of managing the seasonal restaurant.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE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All they are is ducks in the wind

Plucky family of waterfowl takes on Woodbine winds in viral video

A video of a mother duck and nine ducklings battling a nasty crosswind as they waddle across Woodbine Racetrack's grounds has snagged more than 3 million hits on YouTube in four days.

No ducks were harmed in making the video, Matthew Stevens, the Woodbine Entertainment Group cameraman who captured the moment, assured the Toronto Star.

"We were under a wind delay at Woodbine. It's a little dangerous for the horses to race in wind like that," Stevens said.

Braver than thoroughbreds, the duck family had tried twice before to get from the racetrack paddock to the walking ring. They picked themselves up after getting blown across the concrete, the ducklings got back into formation behind their mother, and they all ducked into a sheltered spot. "We made sure none of the little ducklings would fall into the storm drain," Stevens said. "They were fine.

"I guess this is my 15 minutes, so I'd better enjoy it."
MATTHEW STEVENS, WOODBINE ENTERTAINMENT CAMERAMAN

"It's a bit of a mystery" how the video ended up on YouTube, said Stevens, who lives in Milton.

He suspects it was inadvertently included with tape sent for Woodbine's simulcast on the U.S. horse racing channel TVG. Derbydanx, the online name of a horse racing fan, told the Star he spotted it several months ago and posted it a month ago.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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▶ A mother duck and her ducklings walk on the Woodbine Racetrack grounds, moments before winds send the babies rolling across the pavement, in a still from a YouTube video.

Group of teens hit with 15 theft charges

Toronto police say five boys — aged 13 to 16 — are facing a total of 15 robbery charges.

Police say that between early November and early December, three people were assaulted and robbed by a group of youths.

Police say the incidents all occurred in the area of Brock Avenue and Seaforth Avenue in west Toronto.

Two 13-year-old boys, two 14-year-old boys and a 16-year-old boy have been arrested and each charged with three counts of robbery.

Police say they believe there may be other victims. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

The votes are in for baby's name

Baby Melania was born Tuesday afternoon to first-time parents who enlisted the help of 22,000 strangers to pick her name.

"I was equally happy with both of the top names," said mom Rommy Alpinelli, 34. "But about a week ago we started thinking (about Melania) and then felt it seemed more like her."

22,000 Fab-Find CEO Bill Heilmann said more than 22,000 people — some from as far away as South Africa, China and Brazil — voted to name little Melania.

Melania squeaked past the second-place name, Aria, by just a handful of votes.

The Alpinellis chose their daughter's name by online poll, in the hopes of finding an unusual name. Facebook users participated by submitting suggestions and then voting on the choices over about two weeks.

"It was very interesting," said Alpinelli, a secondary school teacher. "I didn't expect such a huge amount of people."

The vote was organized by FabFind, a four-month-old daily deals website.

The Alpinellis agreed to name their daughter whichever name received the most votes in the recent online contest. Her middle name, Loren, was suggested by a family member. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

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DIPLOMATIC FILES

Aussie official says U.S. to blame for leaks

Australia's foreign minister said yesterday the U.S. government is responsible for the leaking of hundreds of thousands of classified diplomatic memos.

Kevin Rudd cautioned against blaming the WikiLeaks website that published the secret cables and its founder.

Top U.S. officials have said WikiLeaks acted illegally when it posted the sensitive files — memos from American embassies around the world that have embarrassed Washington.

The U.S. is investigating whether Julian Assange, the website's Australian founder, can be prosecuted for espionage.

But Rudd said the blame lies with the leaker and the U.S. government's own failure to protect its secrets.

"The bottom line here is … the failure of … the United States to properly protect its own diplomatic communications," Rudd said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blaze in Chilean prison kills at least 81 inmates

ALIOSHA MARQUEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Relatives of prisoners at San Miguel prison weep and scream as the names of inmates are read out after yesterday's devastating blaze.

Brawl between prisoners sparks fire at overcrowded jail in Chile

A fire started during an inmate brawl swept through an overcrowded prison in Santiago, Chile, yesterday, killing at least 81 people and seriously injuring 14.

A prisoner using an illegal cellphone called state television pleading for help — and the screams of inmates briefly aired across Chile.

Hundreds of anxious and angry relatives of inmates gathered in a chaotic scene outside the prison gates.

It was supposed to be visitors' day at the prison, so many family members were already lining up outside when the fire broke out.

Their anxiety spilled over when they learned that prisoners were killed.

Some broke down in tears and screams, while others threw rocks at national prison police director Luis Masferrer as he read survivors' names over a megaphone.

The fire in San Miguel prison began during fighting between inmates and reached its maximum intensity in just three minutes, Interior Minister Rodribo Hinzpeter said.

Investigator Alejandro Pena said preliminary reports indicated the fire was set intentionally.

"The conditions that existed inside this prison are absolutely inhumane."
CHILEAN PRESIDENT SEBASTIAN PINERA

A fire department communiqué said the first firefighters arrived on the scene nine minutes after the initial alarm and found a violent fire spread over a large part of the fourth floor of Tower 5.

They cut through several locks, allowing them to save 60 inmates.

Officials had identified 31 of the victims by last night, with many of the bodies unrecognizable.

Officials said most will have to be identified by DNA.

Health Minister Jaime Manalich called it an "enormous calamity" and the worst in the history of Chile's prison system.

A fire in a northern prison killed 26 people in 2001. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gates were closed to firefighters: Relatives

Some relatives of inmates at Santiago's San Miguel prison told state TV that jail police initially closed the gates to firefighters, impeding efforts to control the blaze.

"They wouldn't let the firefighters come in. The riot police came in first and began to beat us, and later the firefighters came in," a prisoner said in a call played on state TV.

He didn't give his name, saying he feared retribution.

He said guards "laughed and took photos with the cellphones of the inmates who were vomiting (from smoke) … and didn't do anything."

But fire Chief Jose Sanchez denied firefighters were kept from entering. Guards "facilitated the firemen's entrance to the damaged area."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ John Lennon fans hold a vigil last night on Parliament Hill to mark his death.

Remembering Lennon 30 years after murder

Fans gather near N.Y.C. apartment where he was shot
Rolling Stone magazine releases full interview with former Beatle recorded three days before his death

John Lennon's fans celebrated his life yesterday by visiting Strawberry Fields, the Central Park garden dedicated in his honour, while a newly released interview he gave shortly before his death showed he was optimistic about his future.

On the 30th anniversary of Lennon's murder outside his Manhattan apartment building, admirers played his music nearby at Strawberry Fields and placed flowers on a mosaic named for his song Imagine.

The steady stream of visitors represented the range of people who love Lennon, from those who watched his career unfold as it happened to those who know only his music.

Father-daughter pair Paul DeLuca, 50, and Marissa DeLuca, 17, came to mark the day.

"I grew up with his voice," said Marissa DeLuca. "The Beatles are the soundtrack to my childhood," she said. "His voice is just kind of like home."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Dead heroes'

- In a newly released interview, conducted just three days before he was gunned down, John Lennon complained about his critics — saying they were just interested in "dead heroes" and mused that he had "plenty of time" to accomplish some of his life goals.
- The interview, believed to be his last print interview, was released yesterday to The Associated Press by Rolling Stone magazine, which uses the full interview for a story that will be on stands tomorrow. While brief excerpts of Jonathan Cott's interview were released for a 1980 Rolling Stone cover story days after Lennon's death, this is the first time the entire interview has been published.

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Judge cites role of jail guards in death of man

Nova Scotia man 'did not die because he was mentally ill,' inquiry head says ◐ Restraint technique to blame?

FAMILY PHOTO/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Howard Hyde

The head of an inquiry into the jail cell death of a mentally ill Nova Scotia man has rejected a medical examiner's conclusion that he died of excited delirium.

Howard Hyde's death was caused by a struggle with jail guards, the judge's report said yesterday.

It was the guards' restraint technique that played a role in Hyde's accidental death in 2007.

Provincial court judge Anne Derrick said Hyde, a 45-year-old musician diagnosed with schizophrenia in his 20s, was in the midst of a psychotic episode when he was forced to lie on his stomach with his hands behind his back.

And that position may have interfered with his ability to breathe.

"The only useful approach is to understand that Mr. Hyde died because of physiological changes in his body brought on by an intense struggle involving restraint," Derrick wrote.

"He did not die because he was mentally ill."

Hyde's story attracted national attention because he had been Tasered up to five times by Halifax police about 30 hours before he died.

But Derrick's 460-page report clearly says the repeated Tasering did not cause Hyde's death.

Stephen Ayer, executive director of Schizophrenia Society of Nova Scotia, said his group supports Derrick's call for an increase in funding for mental health services.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Haiti. Thousands take to the streets

▶ A car is engulfed in flames on a street in Port-au-Prince.

PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Flames of anger

The headquarters of Haiti's ruling party were set ablaze yesterday as protests over disputed presidential election results spread through the Haitian capital. Thousands took to the streets, furious that government-backed candidate Jude Celestin, the protegé of unpopular president René Preval, apparently will go to a run-off vote.

Disfigured Afghan cover girl's kin held

The father-in-law of a disfigured Afghan woman whose photo was featured on a Time magazine cover has been arrested, officials say.

A Taliban commander acting as a judge ordered the woman's nose and ears sliced off last year as punishment for fleeing her husband's home, said Time's story in August and other accounts.

Just 18 years old at the time, Aisha said she fled to escape her in-laws' beatings and abuse.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The accused

- Aisha's father-in-law was arrested in southern Afghanistan, an Interior Ministry aide said.
- He was being held in jail in Uruzgan province. It was not immediately clear if he had been charged.

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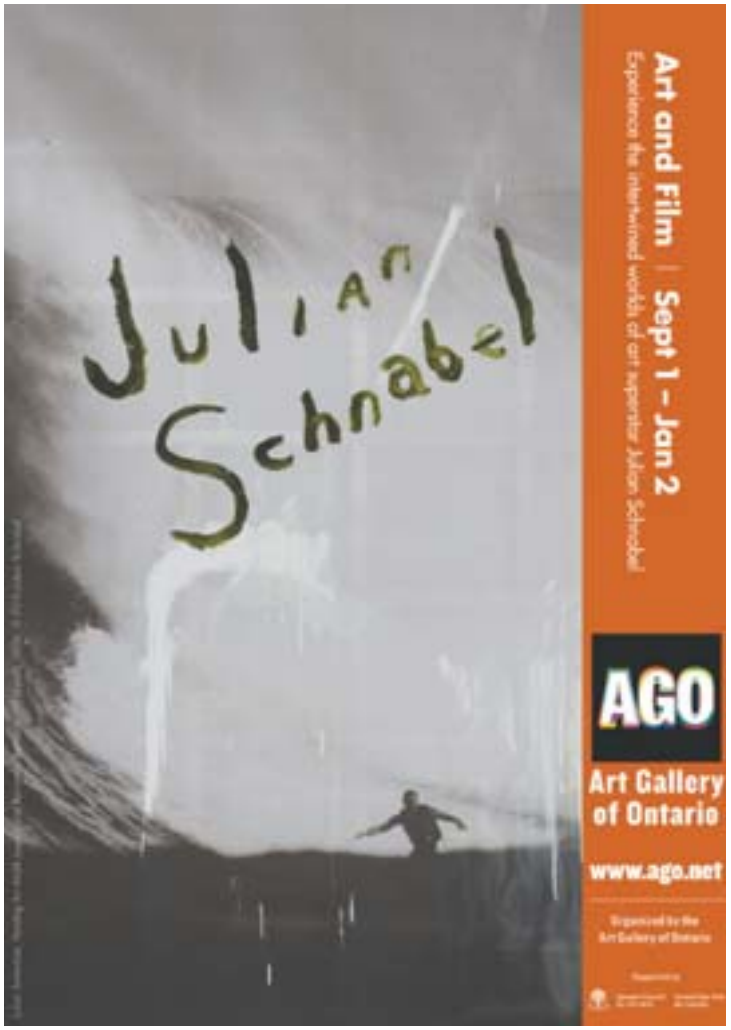

Chief says he misunderstood secret G20 law

McGuinty declines to offer full apology for what ombudsman called a mass violation of civil rights

RICK EGLINTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Toronto police Chief Bill Blair says his force has identified at least five officers involved in the controversial arrest of a man who suffered facial fractures at the G20 summit.

Blair said his force is doing everything it can to get to the truth, and if there is evidence of misconduct among his officers it will be dealt with.

The police chief has come under increasing fire in the wake of an investigation into the injuries sustained June 26 by Adam Nobody, and a damning ombudsman report on the so-called secret G20 law.

Confusion surrounding the updated law led the public to believe police had the power to demand identification and detain people coming within five metres of the security fence. In fact, the law only applied inside the fence.

Blair, speaking in Victoria yesterday, said he honestly believed, based on legal advice, that the law included the area five metres outside the fence.

He said when he found out the truth he immediately told his officers, but regrets not having told the public as well.

Earlier, Premier Dalton McGuinty said the Ontario government acted with "good intentions," but too much haste.

"The police were given additional authority. We moved too quickly to provide that authority," McGuinty admitted.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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European winter, Canadian-style

Meteo France reports 10 centimetres of accumulation in Paris, where heavy snowfall is rare All city buses and many in suburbs stopped

High alert

In a sign of how a little snow catches Paris off guard, Interior Minister Brice Hortefeux called a news conference about the weather. He said an additional 5,000 police were deployed to help prevent trouble on the roadways.

Heavy snow in Paris yesterday shut down the city's main airport, its bus system and the Eiffel Tower.

Elsewhere in Europe, bad weather caused travel chaos in Scotland, and a child's body was found after a flash flood in Spain.

Flights in and out of Paris' Charles de Gaulle were suspended for about an hour and a half yesterday afternoon, the city's airport authority said. When it reopened, only one of four runways was in use.

At both Paris airports, flights were delayed by up to three hours.

Meanwhile, in Scotland, the first minister said everything possible was being done to keep the country moving in "exceptional conditions."

Road and rail journeys were once again plunged into chaos by the severe cold, and a 32-kilometre stretch of Scotland's busiest road, between Edinburgh and Glasgow, was closed.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JACQUES BRINON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ A woman and a girl make the best of a snowy day near the Eiffel Tower yesterday after heavy snow fell on the French capital.

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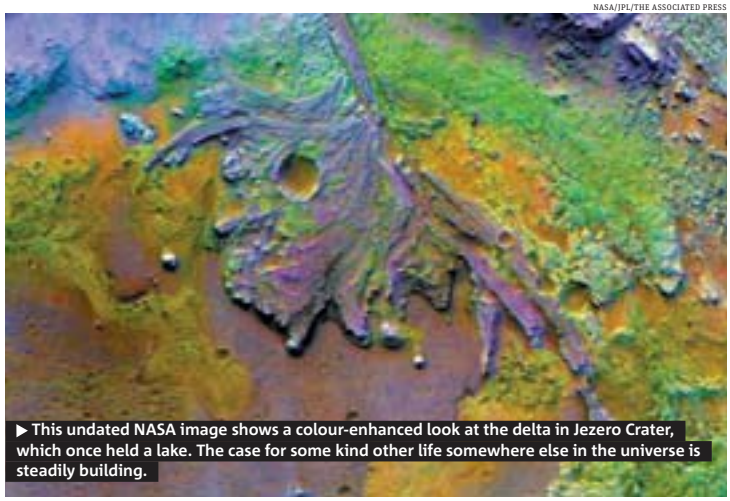

▶ This undated NASA image shows a colour-enhanced look at the delta in Jezero Crater, which once held a lake. The case for some kind other life somewhere else in the universe is steadily building.

Research points toward alien life

'The evidence is just getting stronger and stronger,' says NASA director More likely slime mould than E.T.

A handful of new discoveries makes it seem more likely that we are not alone — that there is life somewhere else in the universe.

In the past several days, scientists have reported there are three times as many stars as they previously thought. Another group of researchers discovered a microbe can live on arsenic, expanding our understanding of how life can thrive under the harshest environments.

Earlier this year, astronomers for the first time said they had found a potentially habitable planet.

"I think anybody looking at this evidence is going to say, 'There's got to be life out there,'" said Carl Pilcher, director of NASA's Astrobiology Institute, which studies the origins, evolution and possibilities of life in the universe.

First contact?

Mars is the most likely candidate for alien life. Any life is probably underground where there is water, astronomers say.

▶ **Other possibilities** include moons of Jupiter and Saturn.

At its most simplistic core, the scientific calculations hinge on two basic factors: How many places out there can support life? And how hard is it for life to take root?

Last week's findings increased the number of potential homes for life and broadened the definition of what life is. It means the probability for alien life is higher than ever, agree 10 scientists interviewed by The Associated Press.

A caveat: Since much of this research is new, scientists are still debating how solid the conclusions are.

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DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Tyler Edwards shovels a snowdrift from the roof of his home earlier this week in London, Ont.

1-metre wonderland

No transit, schools, non-emergency services in London, Ont. Canada Post says it will try to deliver, but many mailboxes are buried in snow

The London Health Sciences Centre and St. Joseph Health Care cancelled non-emergency surgery and services as London digs out from a record snowfall.

Schools were closed, college exams cancelled and there were no transit or school buses yesterday after more than one metre of snow fell on the city since the weekend.

It's more snow than London saw between last December and March.

City manager Jeff Fielding said surrounding communities had offered help with snow clearing, but those offers dried up when the snow moved into those areas.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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MIKE WERT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian captured by militants freed

▶ Bob Croke

A Newfoundland oil worker who was held hostage for a terrifying 10 days in Nigeria says he will celebrate a sweet Christmas at home.

Bob Croke, 51, a married father of three grown sons and six other oil workers were captured from their rig, operated by London-based Afren PLC, in the early morning hours of Nov. 8.

Croke, who was working as a directional drilling supervisor, said it was just after 12:30 a.m. and he was settling down to sleep in a trailer outside the main housing units where some 70 other workers were staying.

He heard something going on outside his door and emerged to find himself staring down the barrel of an armed gunman's weapon.

"The senior (militant) was asking where the captain was. I said: 'I don't know where the captain is' and he fired a couple of rounds into the air. He asked again and fired another round into the floor."

That shot hit Croke in the left foot.

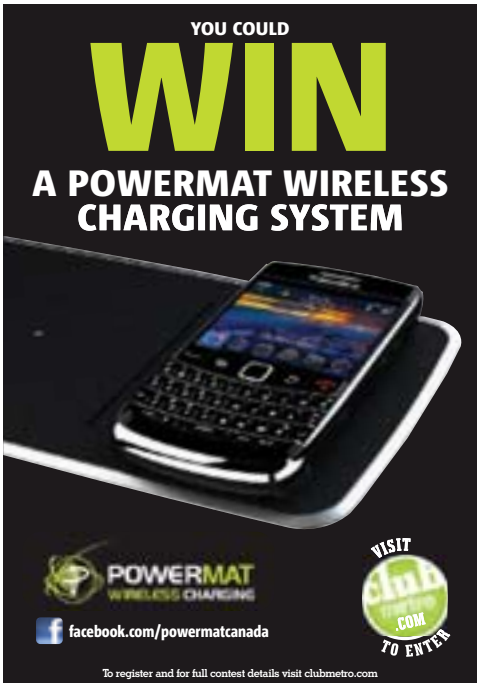
"I've never been in front of a gun in my life and I've never been shot before," he said. "When it hit me, it didn't hurt. It stung and then it was numb — which was good."

Croke, two French workers, two Americans and two Indonesians were hauled off the rig and onto boats as the militants attacked a nearby supply ship.

A week later, amid threats of an aerial bombing run by Nigerian government forces, Croke and his fellow captives were relocated to another camp.

"You could feel the percussions. I mean every bomb that was dropped."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Late freeze hurting polar bears

In rare cases mothers stop nursing and cubs die on land, scientist says

Scientists say polar bear moms and their cubs near Churchill in northern Manitoba are suffering the worst effects of a late freeze-up of sea ice on Hudson Bay.

The bears are just now setting out for the sea ice they use as a hunting platform for seals, said University of Alberta researcher Andrew Derocher.

That's weeks later than usual — and comes on top of an early spring thaw that drove the bears off hunting ground nearly a month sooner than usual.

"This year's been pretty challenging on the population," said Derocher from Inuvik, N.W.T. "Some of these bears have had a very long on-land period. A lot of the bears are just running out of steam."

Polar bears tend not to hunt during the summer, which they spend on land. They can burn up to a kilogram of fat a day as they wait to return to the sea ice. THE CANADIAN PRESS

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ A mother and her two cubs huddle near Churchill, Man.

Cancun. Conference

▶ An environmental activist from Greenpeace holds an image of the Statue of Liberty in the water during the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Cancun, Mexico, yesterday.

EDUARDO VERDUGO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Not exactly vacationing

According to the UN weather agency, 2010 is "almost certain" to rank among the three hottest years on record, and in a report issued Tuesday experts said glaciers in southern South America and Alaska's coastal mountains have been losing mass faster and for longer than glaciers elsewhere in the world.

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Market moment

PRICES AS OF 4 P.M. YESTERDAY

TSX	Dollar
– 98.67 (13,152.00)	+ 0.06¢ (98.93¢ US)

Oil	Natural gas 1,000 cu ft
– 0.41¢ US ($88.28 US)	$4.606 (+ 21.3¢)

Gold contracts $1,383 (– $25.80)

Drop in research spending

Businesses performing industrial research and development anticipated spending $14.8 billion in 2010. That's a 6.2 per cent drop from what they spent in 2008 and 2.6 per cent below their 2009 projections. Statistics Canada reports companies spent $15.8 billion on industrial R&D in 2008, down 5.1 per cent, or $852 million, from 2007. Spending in 2008 in Ontario amounted to $7.6 billion, or 48 per cent of the industrial R&D total, while businesses in Quebec spent $4.6 billion.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Oilsands get boost in the U.S.

The U.S. gets most of its crude from Canada, not the Middle East

A U.S. energy industry lobby group plans to launch a new pro-oilsands ad campaign in the new year, with a focus on the economic shot in the arm the controversial resource could bring to the ailing U.S. economy.

The American Petroleum Institute did not offer specific details about the campaign's cost or reach on a conference call with reporters yesterday.

"We've been promoting the economic benefits and jobs that this resource has been able to bring the U.S., and we really feel that it's just not been registering as well as we think it should," said Cindy Shild, manager of downstream and industry operations with the API. The oilsands have been the subject of intense negative publicity south of the border.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Economic impact

API said the oilsands will create new jobs south of the border.

Employment
API said the oilsands industry will create 342,000 new U.S. jobs between 2011 and 2015.

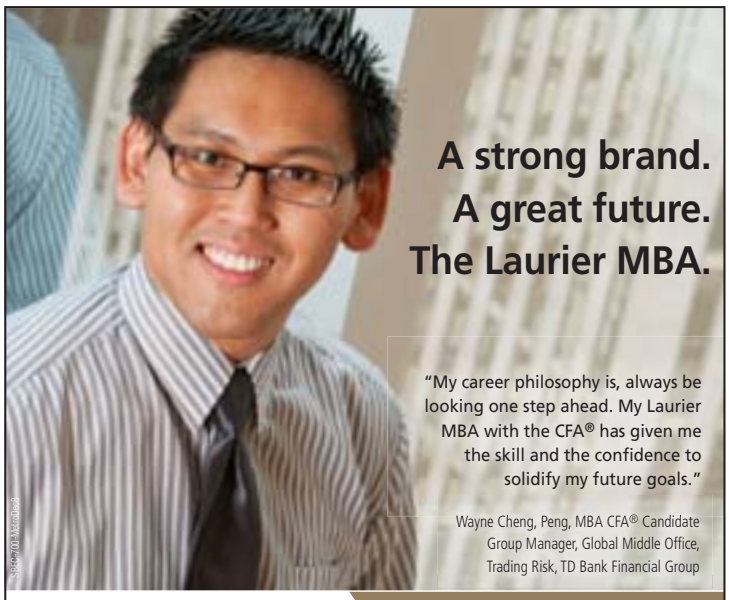
Charity. Day

▶ Prince William attends the 18th annual ICAP Charity Day yesterday in London, England.

KRISTY WIGGLESWORTH/GETTY IMAGES

Royal raising money

Revenues from trading on ICAP's Charity Day will go to more than 200 different charities around the world, including two of The Prince of Wales's charities, Youth Business International, and The Prince's Teaching Institute and Skill Force, of which Prince William is patron.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Ontario sees November surge in housing starts

Province's massive rise in starts largely due to Toronto market Most provinces saw a decrease

STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Condos are seen under construction between the Rogers Centre and the Air Canada Centre.

Housing starts jumped significantly in the Toronto market in November, as developers got busy pouring concrete foundations in November before the onset of winter.

Toronto starts hit 51,100 seasonally adjusted and annualized units in November, up by 157 per cent from a month earlier according to the report by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. released yesterday.

The stellar figure means starts are now 14 per cent higher this year than last year, and there is still one month to go.

The Toronto surge caught economists by surprise, pushing the national housing start figures to a much better than expected 187,200 units, representing an 11.6 per cent increase.

"The gain was almost entirely driven by a bounce in Toronto multi-unit starts," said BMO Capital Markets economist Robert Kavcic. "The bigger picture continues to be one of more moderate and stabilizing building activity." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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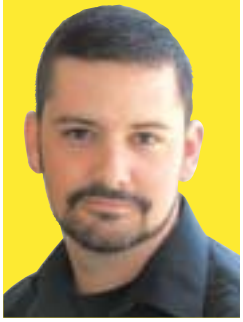
REVEALING THE EVIL SIDE OF JOURNALISM

He says ...

JOHN MAZEROLLE



As a mainstream media pawn, I'm often keeping government secrets, including the latest movements of the Taliban and how Ben Mulroney keeps his hair that way.

I'm kidding — or am I? When you work in journalism long enough, you learn many people are convinced you're part of some grand conspiracy theory. You also learn that many people apparently do jumping jacks in rooms with low ceilings.

For example, I once worked at a newspaper that was accused of reporting on a murder because it happened in a park where a natural gas line was being proposed. So, you see, we were trying to devalue the land in a bid to help our corporate buddies get their gas line.

I wish we were that smart, truly. I also wish we had that level of super villainy. It would be a lot of fun, tenting our fingers and such. But I'm afraid the only thing that makes that even remotely like real journalism management is how inefficient it is.

"Some people like to imagine the media as a shadowy collective ..."

Some people like to imagine the media as a shadowy collective that works in lockstep to undermine whatever beliefs they hold. It's not unusual to show up at an event with a notepad and have someone growl, "Are you the media?!"

"Yes. I am the media. Well, me and Peter Mansbridge. We just lunched. I'd love to talk, but there's a ribbon cutting in Regina, then I have an Ottawa meeting with the prime minister about what to make up this week."

I've been thinking about conspiracy theories because of the never-ending WikiLeaks story, which has taken secret U.S. documents, put them on the Internet, and resulted in a worldwide surge of Facebook status updates about "taking a WikiLeak." And that's been the most interesting thing about it.

WikiLeaks underlines the big flaw of most conspiracy theories: A conspiracy requires people to keep their mouth shut. And people don't. WikiLeaks hasn't revealed anything we didn't already know. It's been a bit like reading your daughter's diary and finding out she likes boys and "hates hates hates" you. Well, duh.

The lesson? There are no secrets. Everything is already out there, and the things that aren't get found out soon enough.

Frankly, if a journalist faces pressure from corporations or government about a story that could change lives, he will push past the oppression for one simple reason: He could win an award.

We are evil. Just not for the reasons you think.

Read more of John Mazerolle's columns at metronews.ca/hesays

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER

2011: Year of app threat

Worth mentioning

Want to scam someone on a smartphone or tablet computer? There's probably going to be an app for that.

The exploding popularity of mobile devices and their many software applications is already being exploited by those out to steal personal information.

"We think 2011 is the year of the threat to the mobile device, particularly the mobile app," said Dave DeWalt, chief executive of McAfee Inc. security software.

There are about 20 new computer tablets coming out, "tons" of new smart devices and literally hundreds of thousands of applications being developed for them, DeWalt said.

"There's an ecosystem of application developers who are building applications with the sole purpose of downloading to a mobile environment, making it very viral and then actually stealing from you," he said.

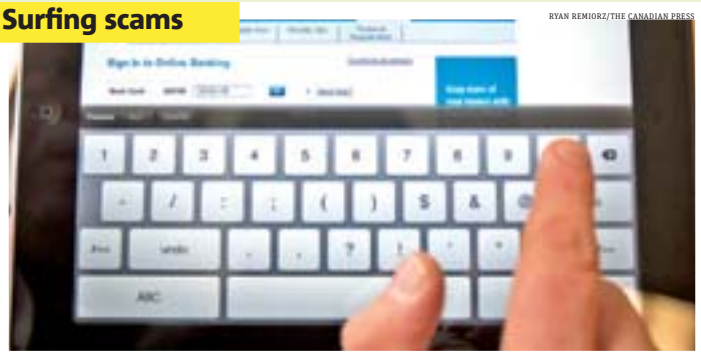
Next year, it's expected there will be more consumer warnings and research into these kinds of threats, DeWalt said.

Games are particularly vulnerable to malware because they are the most shared, social-network oriented and players enter personal information on their sites.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Surfing scams

RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS



What do you think about Don Cherry getting involved in politics?

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Metro Minute at Let Him Be

Yesterday marked the 30th anniversary since we lost beloved pop troubadour John Lennon.

But if he were still alive, churning out hits as easily as some people shoot off emails, he would pull himself out of his Montreal hotel bed, fumble for his iconic horn rims, and head to Innis Town Hall at 2 Sussex Ave. for a screening of Let Him Be, the Peter McNamee fantasy about his post-mortem life.

The film Imagines (sorry!) a world where John Lennon may have staged his own death to live a life of anonymity in Canada.

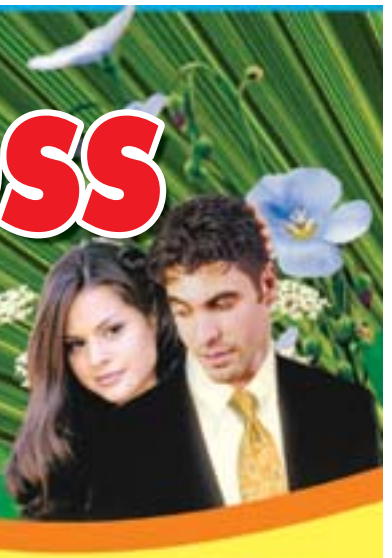
So who knows? There's a good chance he may be sitting in the back, cap pulled low.

JORDANA DIVON

THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

▶ The screening of Let Him Be starts at 7:15 p.m. and proceeds go toward the Daily Bread Food Bank. Call 416-978-4145 for more info.

STOP HAIR LOSS



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How long must I use BIO-FEN PLUS™ *?*

BIO-FEN PLUS™ capsules are usually effective at stopping hair loss within the first two months. However, since healthy hair grows only about 1 cm each month, it may take up to three months before you notice that hair growth is increased or further hair loss is stopped.

Anyone experiencing new growth will see it within four to six months. Once results become apparent, some users are able to reduce their BIO-FEN PLUS™ supplement dose to one capsule every second or every third day. Some clients will continue to take BIO-FEN PLUS™ daily. Once you stop completely, however, your hair growth pattern will slowly go back to the point where you started.

How safe is BIO-FEN PLUS™ *?*

The ingredient combination in BIO-FEN PLUS™ is generally safe for most adults. However, the following cautions are advised:

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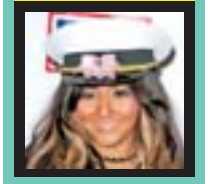
2 scene

Scene in brief



You know it's New Year's Eve when the Snooki drops — or at least you will this year.

MTV says it plans to put Jersey Shore star Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi inside a ball that drops in New York's Times Square to ring in 2011 as part of its MTV New Year's Bash special.

The network says other stars from its hit reality show Jersey Shore will lead the crowd in a collective fist pump in hopes of breaking the Guinness world record.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Santa Claus just wants a beer: George Wendt slips into the red suit again for musical Elf

It's the holidays and you're staring down your gift list when it dawns on you: TV! We all have a die-hard fan of one show or another to buy for, so go for the easy-peasy with a screen-inspired gift Here are some suggestions for fans of four shows

Gift ideas for the TV lovers in your life

FRANK OCKENFELS/AMC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

MAD MEN

Booze, smokes, adultery. Nothing says the holidays like the '60s ad agency megahit on AMC.

• You heard about it on the show, now read it for yourself: Sterling's Gold: Wit & Wisdom of an Ad Man, observations from Roger Sterling Jr. It's a fresh offering that Grove Press published under the character's name. A Sterling pearl: "When a man gets to a point in his life when his name's on the building, he can get an unnatural sense of entitlement."

• There's also the stylish Mad Men: The Illustrated World by Dyna Moe from Penguin imprint Perigee Trade. Tips for the perfect bouffant, paper dolls that include Joan, hangover remedies, inside jokes. Great for the coffee table.

• For him: Sterling silver tie bar by David Donahue at Nordstrom. Narrow with etched stripes on the front.

• For her: The gold ruby glass Art Deco beverage set with roly-poly glasses at Retroartglass.com, or choose your own '60s-inspired martini set on eBay.

MICHAEL YARISH/FOX/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

GLEE

For your favourite Gleek – because excess is important.

• Glee Karaoke Revolution for Wii. Sing your faves from the first season, perform with characters from the show, compete against friends, but don't forget the add-on: the Wii Karaoke Microphone.

• The cast has a new Christmas album, Glee, the Music, the Christmas Album, ahead of the second season's special for the holidays to air Dec. 7. Twelve mostly classic holiday nuts in all, including K.D. Lang channelling Dr. Seuss for You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch.

• There's a licensed clothing line, from T-shirts to tracksuits, sold exclusively at Macy's, but why not wing it with a fun outfit for your fan — inspired by but not branded for the Fox smash.

• Claire's began selling Glee accessories in September for younger fans. Choose from necklaces, bracelets, rings, earrings, hats, cosmetics, legwear, bags (there's one that says Kiss My Glee), wallets and paper goods. Tons more available elsewhere.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS

The world's most popular sea sponge and his Bikini Bottom underworld are tailor-made for the holidays.

• If your little one can stomach a little real life (sometimes bad things happen to good animals), then wrap up the DVD of Oceans from Disneynature. The follow-up to Earth came out this year and is a visual celebration of sea creatures and their life cycles. Rated G.

• Natural sea sponges can be had in many shapes and sizes. Order some from Naturalbathandbodyshop.com and combine in a gift box full of fresh paints in sea tones and a roll of heavy paper for art projects. The site sells natural sponges that look like fingers, elephant ears and undersea vases.

• Mr. SquarePants is a merchandising machine, so there's no end of books, games, toys, sports gear and home decor available. Looking for something inspired by but not emblazoned with SpongeBob? Try Suzy Lee's wordless Wave, a lovely picture book about a girl on a beach first out in 2008.

ADAM LARKEY/ABC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

DANCING WITH THE STARS

Twelve seasons later, this glitzy competition is going strong. You're never too young or old to feel the beat, or trash celebs.

• Toning your tush to the tango might be just the ticket for the holidays. There are plenty of DWTS-inspired workouts on DVD. Watch for Dancing With the Stars: Ballroom Buns & Abs, featuring fitness pros Chelsie, Edyta and Kym. They promise sexy dancer curves in three workouts.

• Grab the hubs and go for Samba lessons. He'll groan but they're paid for already.

• For kid fans, Dance Star Mickey by Fisher-Price is catching some buzz for the holidays. This mighty animatronic robot mouse has different moves for different grooves. He walks, he talks, he tells jokes, he moonwalks. Just press his foot and away he goes.

• Treat a teen to some leg warmers, from chunky cables in wool to lighter-weight versions made for actual dancers in stripes or warm pink. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Album reviews

A classic ●●●●● | Buy it ●●●● |
Get the single ●●● | Borrow it ●● | Don't bother ●

Daft Punk
Album: Tron: Legacy
Label: Walt Disney
●●●½
No artist could fit a film better than Daft Punk with a sequel to Tron. Hiring an 85-piece orchestra to help out, they've defied most expectations as Tron: Legacy is more a true film score than a new Daft Punk album. As such, they've built a cinematic atmosphere, which unfortunately makes listening to it tricky without the revolutionary visuals. **Outstanding track:** Tron: Legacy (End Titles) ● CAM LINDSAY

Duffy
Album: Endlessly
Label: Universal
●●●
Duffy sticks to her retro groove with a rhythm section provided by The Roots and music written by 66-year-old Hall of Fame songwriter Albert Hammond. On a couple of tracks, like Lovestruck the squeaky Britpop singer drags herself from the mid-60s into the disco of the late 70s, complete with swirling violins. There are places on this CD where Duffy's nasally rasp is simply irritating. ● GRAHAM ROCKINGHAM

Deadmau5
Album: 4x4=12
Label: Virgin/EMI
●●●½
Deadmau5 might be an internationally acclaimed electro artist, but the noise maker is a born and bread Torontonian. Not that it matters, Joel Zimmerman, as his family calls him, makes gripping dance-floor sounds that anyone, anywhere can enjoy. His latest is a compilation of loosely connected songs. They all feature some kind of heavy drum beat, and they're mostly devoid of vocals. ● BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI

T.I.
Album: No Mercy
Label: Grand Hustle/Atlantic
●●½
Originally titled King Uncaged, T.I.'s delayed seventh album was re-branded once he was ordered back to jail. No Mercy finds T.I. rapping about salvation and his mistakes but too much focus is placed on his player lifestyle. No Mercy falls flat, even with Kanye and Eminem standing tall by his side. **Outstanding track:** Pledge of Allegiance ● CAM LINDSAY

Christopher Dignan
Album: Let The Sparks Fly
Label: Independent
●●●●●
Mingling amongst musical sub-genres while still entirely unique, Toronto-based solo artist Dignan creates a sinewy mix of garage, shuffling rockabilly groove and indie rock on this pristine full-length. If ever there was a poster-boy for the future of Toronto's independent rock scene, Dignan is it. **Outstanding track:** I'm Feeling Good Now ● KEITH CARMEN

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5
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1 Window Wonderland
WHEN: Month of November
WHERE: Throughout Downtown Yonge
WHAT: Ryerson Retail Management students create window displays on a budget of $100 with the theme Sparkle in the City
2 Buskertainment
WHEN: Between Nov 12 and Dec 19, 12pm–2pm each day (Fridays–Sundays)
WHERE: Throughout Downtown Yonge
WHAT: Fire performers, illusionists, mimes, human statues, jugglers, stilt characters and more
4 Illuminite
WHEN: Saturday, Nov 20, 6pm
WHERE: Yonge-Dundas Square
WHAT: Circus Orange will set the Square ablaze with a spectacular lighting ceremony to kick-off the holiday season
3 Ice, Wine & Dine
WHEN: Saturday, Nov 13, 4pm–10pm
WHERE: Elm Street (between Yonge and Bay)
WHAT: Elm Street comes alive with savoury food, festive drinks and live entertainment
5 Kidzfest
WHEN: Saturday Nov 27 & Sunday, Nov 28, 11am–5pm
WHERE: Yonge-Dundas Square
WHAT: A weekend of fun for kids including animals, rides, and Meet and Greets with Kai-lan,* Miss Spider™ and Pikachu*
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A long road home for Broken Social Scene

The loose collective will play two gigs in Toronto

KEITH CARMAN
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Most bands have a hard time keeping their lineup intact. When it comes to Toronto-based loose collective Broken Social Scene (BSS), however, it doesn't want the same members hitting the stage nightly.

While the concept sounds odd, a brief glimpse at the 11-year-old outfit's career proves its feasibility: four revered albums, universal praise, a consistent-yet-revolving door of talented contributors such as Leslie Feist, Metric's Emily Haines and Pavement's Spiral Stairs, and a unique style steeped in rock yet embracing all aspects of music.

BSS' popularity has found it relentlessly touring the globe since the May release of Forgiveness Rock Record (Arts & Crafts). Now, it is finally seeing the end in sight with two hometown gigs, tonight and tomorrow at Toronto's Sound Academy.

▶ BSS will play two gigs at Sound Academy.

Founder/bassist/singer Brendan Canning sighs with relief to wrap up a whirlwind jaunt.

"There's never anything bittersweet about seeing the end in sight. It's nothing but pleasing," he quips. "We've been travelling so much, we've got Elite status with Air Canada now, which is helpful because we can carry more luggage like guitars ... and when you've got members coming and going, you've got a lot of instruments."

To that extent, Canning alludes to the band's homecoming gigs as a hotbed of potential surprise. Taunting with some names yet refusing to divulge much, he feigns ignorance about details to arouse speculation.

"(Stars') Amy (Milan) and Evan (Cranley) are in. As more emails go around about who's in town those nights, more commit. It'll be a full stage," he says.

"The second night, we're not having a support act so we'll have everyone come up for some tunes

"Sometimes I don't know until a day before the show who's actually there, though...but it's looking like it might be a full cast of BSS characters.

"That's the rumour going around the email chain. I don't know how we keep it straight."

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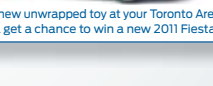

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Duffy continues to grow her repertoire

With her first album, Duffy became a Grammy winner, a platinum-selling artist and an international sensation.

But while the petite blonde from Wales had been working diligently for her moment in the spotlight, when it came, she didn't feel quite like she earned all that adulation.

"I remember playing for 60,000 people thinking, 'You only know me for 10 songs,'" she said recently. "I want to show you that there's more. I want to earn that kind of celebration."

JOEL RYAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Duffy released her second album Endlessly.

She's hoping to do that with Endlessly. Her sophomore album (a new term for Duffy that she delightfully pronounces "soft-more") is a bit more upbeat than her debut, Rockferry, and features collaborations with Al Hammond Sr. and ?uestlove from The Roots.

"I'm bringing more aspects of myself to this record," she said. "I'm a catalogue artist now! ... It kind of feels surreal."

You're working with new people on this record. Why switch things up when the first album was such a success?

It would be easy for someone to rest on their laurels. ... But for me, I wanted to keep testing myself, to (keep) challenging myself, and actually it happened quite accidentally that I ended up working with other people.

What did Hammond and ?uestlove bring to the table?

Well, it was an interesting mix of people: Myself from Wales, 26 years old; Albert Hammond from Gibraltar, sort of Spanish influence, who is 66; and then you had The Roots, who are a bunch of really cool young guys, notorious for their unbelievable hip-hop rhythm section. I think it was daring but I was very happy with what came back.

You've said that you didn't want to make a sad album. Did you think your debut was sad?

I don't want to exploit my music just to release the baggage. I don't want to say the things that I regretted saying or the things that I never said in my music. I want to use it as expression and I want to make people feel good.

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▶ Captain Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp) escapes the clutches of King George and his Royal Guards by leaping from carriage to carriage ... while they're still moving in a scene from the upcoming movie Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides.

PETER MOUNTAIN/DISNEY

Fans of the Pirates of the Caribbean might have to wait until May 20, 2011 to see the fourth movie in the franchise, On Stranger Tides, but Metro has a Canadian print exclusive first look at a scene from the film. This will be the first movie in the franchise that will be released in 3-D. It also introduces a new villain, Blackbeard (Ian McShane) and a new love interest for Captain Jack, Angelica (Penelope Cruz).

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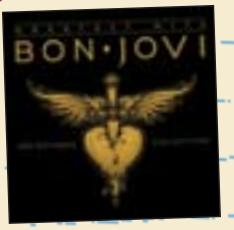

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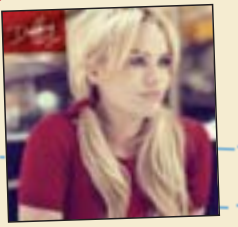

DUFFY
Endlessly
Her sophomore album Endlessly includes the single "Well Well Well".

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▶ In an upcoming Barbara Walters special, Oprah says she's not a lesbian.

Oprah shuts down lesbian rumours

The media mogul denies an intimate relationship with best friend Gayle King, despite persistent gossip

Oprah Winfrey says she's not a lesbian, not even a little bit.

Her long personal and professional connection with Gayle King has sparked rumours that they are gay, but Winfrey denies it in an upcoming interview with ABC's Barbara Walters.

"I'm not even kind of a lesbian," Winfrey says.

Persistent gossip to the contrary annoys her, she says, explaining that, if it were true, "Why would you want to hide it? That is not the way I run my life."

Asked to describe her relationship with King, Winfrey calls her "the mother I never had, the sister everybody would want. She is the friend that everybody deserves."

Winfrey's eyes moisten and her voice chokes as she adds, "I don't know a better person."

Winfrey will end her daytime talk show next spring and, on Jan. 1, is launching a cable channel, the Oprah Winfrey Network.

That new venture has given her moments of panic. "I would wake up in the middle of the night literally clutching my chest, like, 'What have I done?'" she tells Walters.

A Barbara Walters Special: Oprah, The Next Chapter will air Thursday at 9 p.m. EST.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Celebrity tweets

Yoko Ono [@yokoono] Let's report to the Universe how glad we are that our planet is part of such as beautiful constellation.

Steve Martin [@SteveMartinToGo] iPhone just synced perfecty with toaster All is well.

Dolly Parton [@Dolly_Parton] My weaknesses have always been food and men — in that order.

Talking points

DiCaprio's face slasher sentenced

Aretha Wilson, who snuck into a party five years ago and slashed Leonardo DiCaprio's face with a broken beer bottle, was sentenced to two years in prison earlier this week, according to TMZ.

After she has served out her sentence, Wilson will be deported to her native Canada.

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Meet Edward Buchanan, Rad Hourani, Alexa Adams and Flora Gill — the designers behind three exciting new labels that are sure to some day influence the way we dress.

Remember their names

HUNT
STYLE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

When it comes to fashion, young designers often go in and out of style as frequently as the trends they produce. But in a seemingly endless sea of Ones To Watch, there are those few who reveal themselves to have real staying power. Here are three emerging names who you will soon be hearing a lot about.

The designer: Edward Buchanan of Sansovino 6

The innovation: Knitted jeans and re-invented basics

The buzz: Buchanan is a seasoned behind-the-scenes vet who worked for marquee brands (Giorgio Armani, Calvin Klein) before the Italian house Bottega Veneta hired him as a design director. Six years later, he moved back to Manhattan to consult Jennifer Lopez and Sean Diddy Combs on their clothing lines.

"But I never was that designer who was interested in celebrity," Buchanan says. "So I returned to Europe. Sansovino 6 was that answer to what I had been wanting as a designer."

The line is also the answer to what many of us are missing from our closets.

"I asked all of my friends what they wanted for their wardrobes but couldn't find," he explains.

He took their answers — jeans that look modern but feel old and worn in, for instance — and made the knitwear equivalent. The end result is a collection of reinvented staples, such as a pair of skinny jeans that look rough and worn but is in fact completely knitted.

The designer: Rad Hourani

The innovation: Unisex separates

The buzz: Usually, when you think of the word unisex, nondescript T-shirts and parkas come to mind. But Rad Hourani's eponymous clothing line features intricately constructed separates that blur the gender lines.

"When I'm designing a collection, I don't think to myself that I am designing for men or women," says the self-taught designer who splits his time between Paris and New York.

"I do things without gender or season. It's about defying those limitations that are so often self-imposed. I think people should use their own brains to understand … what they like or don't like, rather than allow it to be externally decided," he adds.

The designers: Flora Gill and Alexa Adams

▶ Adams and Gill

The innovation: The line's name means "no title" in German, and the New York-based duo's work aptly has a quality to it that's difficult to put your finger on. It's powerful and yet soft. It cuts a clear line, but sculpts the body as well.

The buzz: Their fanbase grows by the season (Vogue Paris editor Carine Roitfeld bought a coat off the runway) as does their accolades. They've been nominated for both the CFDA Vogue Fashion Fund and Swiss Textile Awards.

3 life

Famous faces

When one thinks of Anna Wintour, hip hop doesn't normally come to mind. Yet, there she is, making an appearance on Sean "Diddy" Combs and Dirty Money's new album, Last Train to Paris. The album list of guest stars reads like a fashion week show schedule with Marc Jacobs, Andre Leon Talley, Zac Posen and Isaac Mizrahi delivering lines as well. Go to americanvogue.com to get a preview of it all. METRO

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The ’60s turtleneck makes a comeback

Rollneck sweaters are trendy again Whether you like yours tight or loose, there are plenty of versions to choose from this year

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The turtlenecks featured on the autumn/winter 2010 runways might have brought to mind images of Bob Dylan or your college professor. Iconic design houses, such as Gucci, Hermès and Z Zegna to name a few, were all part of the turtleneck revival. Team them with a corduroy jacket or a v-neck sweater for a distinguished look.

Embrace your inner bad girl

Mac Cosmetics director Terry Barber offers six ways to look great

NATALIA STUPAKOVA
STYLE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

1 NATURAL BEAUTY

“Translucent makeup will be very popular. It’s all about wearing makeup without looking like you’re wearing makeup,” he says.

“You want to go for eye shadows that look sheer, like water colour.”

2 GO ORANGE

“Orange lipstick will be the real hit,” he says.

It appeared on the spring/summer ‘11 runways in every possible shade, from citrus orange to saffron, and is already showing up in stores.

3 HIGH AND LOW

“Makeup is like clothes. It’s good to mix cosmetics from different brands, expensive and inexpensive,” he says.

4 TACKLE T-ZONE

“Regardless of the beauty trends, your T-zone should never, ever shine. It looks terrible when it does,” he says.

5 INVEST IN PRIMER

“Use professional primer and foundation. No matter what kind of makeup you use, it won’t go on well without it. When an artist paints a picture, he first primes the canvas, lining the surface. You must do the same with your face,” he explains.

6 EMBRACE YOUR INNER BAD GIRL

“All of the women I’ve worked with have a little bit of a bad girl inside, and that’s why they like my makeup. It doesn’t matter if they’re stars, models or just career girls. You have to be a little bad.”

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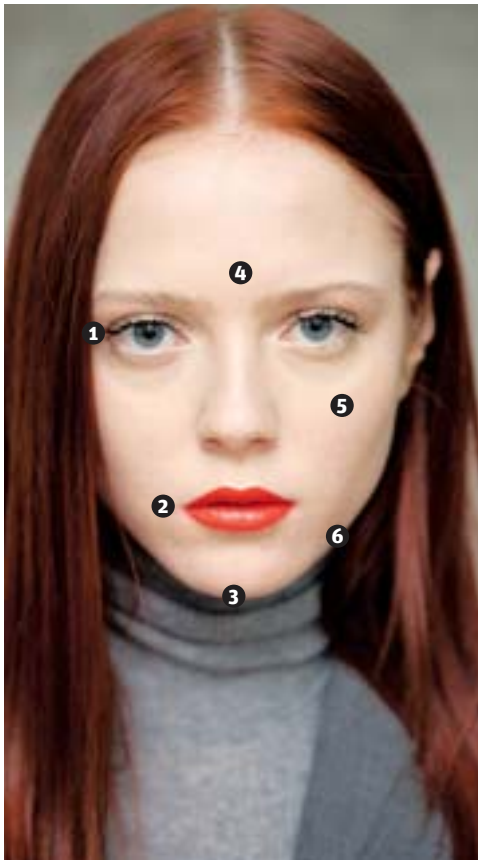

Little gifts

THE KIT

Go ahead and indulge in a little parcel as a special treat. Or get these items in your letter to Santa pronto

Dior Holiday Minaudière
As if the silky trio of eyeshadows and creamy lip-colour duo weren't enough, this Dior kit comes encased in houndstooth-embossed, black patent leather. Two words: Yes, please. $90; dior.com.

Kevin.Murphy Hydrate.Me Jet.Pak
The ultimate carry-on companion for the frequent flyer in the family. $43; kevinmurphy.com.au.

Gwen Stefani's Harajuku Lovers
This season, the girls have a Wicked Style. $49 each (30 ml); shoppersdrugmart.ca.

Quo Backstage Brush Set
Specially priced brush sets abound at this time of year. Quo in particular offers a range of quality brushes in kits from $25 to $100. Shown: Set of eight, $100 (value $200-plus); shoppersdrugmart.ca.

Stila's limited-edition Color Wheel Eye Shadow Palette
This beautiful wheel makes application easy with 37 shadow shades, two double-ended brushes, a built in mirror and a 16-page look book. $50; stilacosmetics.com.

Bleu de Chanel
A new cedar-citrus spritz for him, with a warm yet crisp persona, and an ad campaign crafted by Martin Scorsese. $86 (100 ml); chanel.com.

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Swift exudes ethereal style

Don't look for Taylor Swift in rumpled clothes and no makeup: She's not interested in dressing down to go incognito.

Gowns, red lipstick, hairstylists, front-row runway seats — and, as icing, a CoverGirl model contract — are perks of her fame. She's not going to run away from them, especially if her fans are watching.

"When I'm in Nashville, I feel like I can go natural and not really worry about it, but I generally love makeup and I love dress-up. That's why award shows are so much fun for me," Swift says.

"I'd never wish away makeup and getting all dolled up."

She owes it to her supporters to put on a good show, she says, and at 5'10" she'd stand out in a crowd anyway.

In her new CoverGirl NatureLuxe ads debuting this week, she has a more ethereal vibe.

Yes, she says, there have been quite a few offers to be a spokeswoman for products, but some make more sense than others.

But, Swift adds, her whole life isn't going to become a commercial.

"I love cooking, but I'm not going to pursue that." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

COVERGIRL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Taylor Swift

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Trend of the week

TAMU MCPHERSON

PRINTS THAT POP

Three reasons why this graphics mash-up works.

1. Delphine Brossard, fashion editor for the French edition of Cosmo magazine, is a professional, which would explain why and how she's able to pull this off. Not that you can't emulate the look on your own. The reason why this outfit falls on the chic side of bold is because she chose conflicting graphic prints. That might sound counter-intuitive, but it's a much more interesting approach than wearing one graphic head-to-toe. (If you're wondering, her scarf is by Meilleur Ami, and the sweater and leggings are by H&M. The boots are Surface to Air.)

2. She struck the right balance by pairing her loud separates with neutral accessories and outerwear. Delphine's ivory sweater, caramel tote and black boots perfectly contrast the colourful busy-ness of the graphics.

3. Doesn't her confidence just leap off the page? Attitude is everything.

KENYA HUNT

A wild winter, naturally

From animal graphics to imaginative plays on animal shapes, a bit of beastly style works in any living space
Take a walk on the wild side when choosing presents for the home

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANTHROPOLOGIE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Animal-shaped lamps can often look kitschy, but these find a balance between whimsy and great style; $88 each, anthropologie.com.

DWELL STUDIO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DwellStudio's Peacock Pillows manage to look old world and current at the same time; $58, dwellstudio.com.

URBAN OUTFITTERS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

For the hip yet disorganized person on your list, consider Urban Outfitters' owl-shaped umbrella stand; $128, urbanoutfitters.com.

URBAN OUTFITTERS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This Labrador's head wall hook is perfect for holding the scarf of any of your dog fanatic friends; $38, urbanoutfitters.com.

DWELL STUDIO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This Chinoiserie Pillow by Dwell Studio would complement any chic living room beautifully; $58, dwellstudio.com.

WEST ELM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

These creatures decked out in tiny metallic sequins make great tabletop accessories all year; $25 each, westelm.com.

WEST ELM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This set of small porcelain plates with winter animals etched in platinum are both elegant and whimsical; Set of 4, $22, westelm.com.

ALLMODERN.COM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thai designer Supon Phornirunlit's collection of contemporary graphic animal pillows are hand-silkscreened; $49.95 each, allmodern.com.

WEST ELM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jason Polan's painted owl, penguin and acorn canapé plates would be a lovely hostess gift; Set of 3, $22, westelm.com.

An entertaining guru's wish list

Claim your title as 'host with the most' with these unique home items

DECOR MOMENT

KARL LOHNES
HOME@METRO-NEWS.CA

Living downtown means I have a lot of friends and family who surprise me with visits while they are in the city doing their holiday errands. As a home entertaining enthusiast, I love all the toys that can help make a guest's visit a memorable one. Here are a few things on my wish-list that I hope to find under the tree this year.

BONHOME.COM

▶ What better way to feel like a pro chef than a heat lamp to keep your hors d'oeuvres warm.

▶ A hurricane vase is an entertainer's best friend. It's a vase, candle hol simple glass holiday ornaments and it becomes a great mantel decorat

ADVERTISING FEATURE

New views launched in Mimico

Responding to the market demands of the vibrant lakeside community, Davies Smith Developments is releasing new suites with balconies on the south side of ELEVEN SUPERIOR.

Located in the heart of Mimico by-the Lake's busy retail and restaurant hub, ELEVEN SUPERIOR is breathing new life into one of Toronto's oldest waterfront neighbourhoods, known for its lakeside trails, active main street, vibrant arts community and small town vibe. There have been no big residential developments in this area of the city for quite some time until now with the launch of ELEVEN SUPERIOR. "It's a pioneering building," says Roland Rom Colthoff, principal architect from RAWdesign.

Sitting on the prominent corner of Superior Ave and Lake Shore Blvd West, ELEVEN SUPERIOR offers modern comforts and contemporary living footsteps from Mimico's pedestrian friendly mainstreet and picturesque views of the Lake. The mid-rise condo features an elegant curved corner and six storey masonry frame base made from selected brown brick and stone that will blend with the surrounding streetscape. "We have designed ELEVEN SUPERIOR to fit with the neighbourhood's history and charm," says Graham Chalmers from Davies Smith Developments, who is responsible for a number of groundbreaking condo projects across the greater GTA.

Now featuring 130 suites and 3885 sq. ft of storefront, ELEVEN SUPERIOR offers one bedroom to two bedroom plus den suites and two storey town-homes. Ranging from 535 sq. ft. to 996 sq. ft. Starting in the low $200,000s and priced up to the $400,000s, ELEVEN SUPERIOR is conveniently situated next to transit, boutique coffee shops, groceries, personal health and pet services and sizzling restaurants. Rich in culture and history, Lakeshore Arts also sits a couple doors down, as a key organizer for hosting local artists and cultural events. "We are happy to see the revitalization of such a prominent corner and are looking forward to its contribution to the vibrant street life of Mimico by the Lake" says David Pritchard, Mimico by the Lake BIA board member and owner of Birds and Beans coffee shop located on the Lake Shore. Influenced by a modern take on a nautical theme, ELEVEN SUPERIOR's interiors feature dark brown-engineered hardwood flooring complimented with luminous splashes of blue and white. The kitchen area boasts warm toned granite countertops and islands with modern wood cabinetry for a functional and sophisticated urban space. Adding to the contemporary and functional flow of the living areas, ELEVEN SUPERIOR suites are dressed intelligently in clean lines and a neutral colour palette to accommodate individual styles. The bathrooms, foyers and laundry areas are polished with porcelain or ceramic floors.

The contemporary nautical design is capped with a 2695 sq ft indoor rooftop amenity space including a fitness centre and 1385 sq ft interactive social lounge that features a private dining area, a TV room and billiards area. All of the indoor amenity space connects to a 2254 sq. ft. wrap around terrace equipped with a BBQ that overlooks the city and the water.

"It's a neighbourhood on its way up," says Chalmers who recently helped launch Mimico Square along with the City of Toronto and community partners. A Mimico revitalization plan is also in the works by the City that includes a new bike path along Mimico's waterfront and the extension of Superior Avenue with pedestrian friendly access running all the way down to the lake. With the addition of ELEVEN SUPERIOR on such a vital intersection in the community, Mimico by the lake is becoming a new hot spot for Torontonians to enjoy bustling retail, serene waterfront landscapes and clear views of Toronto's skyline.

The Eleven Superior Presentation Centre is located at 2398 Lake Shore Blvd west in Etobicoke. Hours are Mon – Thurs: 12pm – 7pm; Sat & Sun: 11am – 5pm. For more information please call 416-259-8882, email info@elevensuperior.com or visit: elevensuperior.com.

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▶ The Lane sleeper sofa is ideal for the guest who pops in at the last minute.

Be my guest

Small touches (and gentle rules) mean a smoother stay for visitors

When Laura Barnett's daughter comes to visit, the Chicago mother has to improvise a guest room.

Barnett sets her daughter up in a corner of the living room and clears out space in the hall closet for her clothes and suitcase.

Providing space for a house guest's things is as important as providing a place to sleep, because it will help you maintain order in the home, said Barnett, an interior designer. You have to strike a balance between "making the guest feel welcome and not making you feel like your home's been taken over," she said.

That's especially true during holiday visits, when there tends to be extra clutter and activity, said Randi Destefano of Authentic Living Interiors in Atlanta. Before guests arrive, think about where they will store their luggage, and how much space they may need for clothes and personal items.

If possible, empty a drawer or a shelf in the bathroom for guests to use during their stay, she said. Otherwise, provide a basket or plastic container in which guests can store toiletries and things they need to access throughout the day.

If your home is small or there's not much extra storage, Destefano recommends buying an ottoman with a storage compartment.

"It's a great place to store the bedding and pillows," she said. "They're available at all different price points."

Try to locate your guest in a spot that allows some privacy, Destefano said. She suggests placing air mattresses or sleeping bags in nooks or low-traffic areas of the house.

It's acceptable to ask guests to put away their bedding or close up a sleeper couch each morning, particularly if they are sleeping in a home office or other room that family members need to use, Barnett said.

"Make a rule that they make their bed or move stuff off the furniture," she said.

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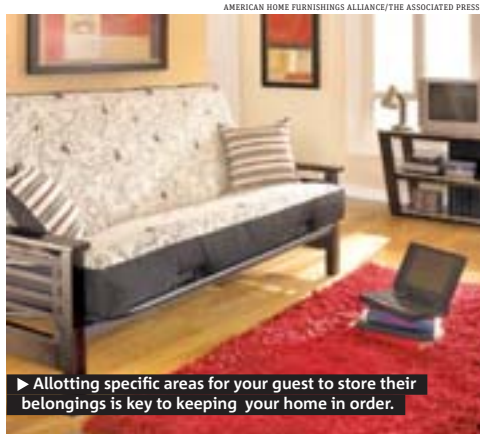

▶ Allotting specific areas for your guest to store their belongings is key to keeping your home in order.

If an adult is going to sleep in a child's room, try to clear out toys and clutter, said Hoyt Dottry, president of the South Carolina Bed and Breakfast Association.

"Put away as much as possible to make it feel like a guest room," said Dottry, owner of Walnut Lane Inn in Lyman, S.C. When furnishing a child's room, consider how often it will double as a guest room. If a lot of company is expected, choose a double or queen-size bed for the room.

"Don't buy bunk beds," Barnett said. "Nobody's grandma wants to be climbing up a ladder to get in somebody's bunk bed."

Regardless of where guests are sleeping, provide them with an alarm clock and night light, added Kevin Sharkey, executive editorial director of decorating for Martha Stewart Living.

Guests also need a place to plug in cellphones and other electronic devices, he said.

Filling a basket with snacks, candy and bottled water is a nice touch, Dottry said. A guest will feel more comfortable taking something from the basket rather than going into the cupboard or refrigerator. Still, it's a good idea to give guests a tour of the kitchen, and let them know what there is to eat and drink, Dottry said.

"Take them to the refrigerator and say, 'This is what I've got. This is all for your use if you get hungry,'" he said.

Don't forget to provide house guests with a key to the front door, Dottry said. Having one makes them feel more comfortable about coming and going as they wish. And it's OK to insist that they return it.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PROUD TO BE PARTNERS WITH CAWIC

As an association executive, I know that the name of the game is membership.

I'm pretty proud that with 1,350 member companies, BILD is the fifth largest local homebuilding association in North America, but I'm equally proud of a new partnership we just formed with the Canadian Association of Women in Construction (CAWIC), which has fewer than 100 members but is growing quickly.

CAWIC is a Canadian non-profit association whose mission is to facilitate the success of women in the Canadian construction industry through its core values of leadership, mentorship, membership and partnership.

CAWICs membership base consists of individuals and companies engaged in construction and related fields. These include general and specialty contractors, architectural and engineering firms, building product manufacturers and distributors, real estate professionals, interior designers, trade associations, law firms and other professional service providers.

For more information, visit cawic.ca.

SEPARATION ANXIETY

Recently, my spouse and I decided to separate. We have combined finances, which we are sorting through but the one asset we are having difficulty deciding what to do with is the matrimonial home. My husband would like to sell the property and split the proceeds. I like the house and would be interested in buying him out. Where do we start?

Your situation is frequently seen in my practice. I think the starting point is for you and your spouse to make sure you are getting good advice.

This usually takes the form of a family law lawyer who is focused and familiar with marital breakup.

This does not mean that you need to hire an aggressive advocate to browbeat and intimidate your spouse. It simply means that you are making an informed decision with respect to both your rights and obligations when your marriage is coming to an end.

If a client comes to me to deal with the disposition or transfer of the matrimonial home, I will inquire if they have entered into a separation agreement.

This is a formal document that sets out the division of property as well as other matters such as financial support and child custody.

It is extremely important that both parties have received good advice and are moving forward on a level playing field.

It doesn't make any sense for you to get a lawyer's advice and then enter into a lopsided agreement because your spouse refuses to engage a lawyer.

Generally, I will request a written agreement that has been properly drafted between lawyers so I am guided in the transfer of the property.

If there isn't such an agreement, I will require a signed acknowledgement by both parties that they are entering into the transaction of their own free will and both agree to have me represent their interests without providing them with any family law advice.

Please be careful when dividing assets and just as importantly, respectful of the person you chose to marry.

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▶ Sea Bass

Stunning food, warm service makes this an ideal lunch spot

LUNCH RUSH

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This is nothing like the nightclubby Marben I visited three years ago. Dark walls have been painted Provence yellow. Natural, rustic embellishments such as roughhewn wood plank tabletops give it a fun, casual vibe. And my drink comes in a glass jar.

My server Rachel is warm, smiley. You'll come just to talk with her. The food however, is stunning.

Little Bird Salad ($7) sways me into loving rye berries. How did they make it so light, with quinoa, teeny croutons and barley in the mix? Pear and almonds add enticing textures and the lemony dressing is spoonworthy. I could eat this every day for the next year.

The Sea Bass ($15) is one of the best I've ever had. Moist and delicate, it pairs nicely with vibrant kale, soothing squash and zesty cauliflower florets. And fish skin has never been sexier.

A lunch I'm still thinking about days later.

- **Marben**
- **488 Wellington St. W. #102**
- **416-979-1990**
- **marbenrestaurant.com**
- **Hours: Mon, Thurs & Fri 11 a.m. - 2 a.m.; Tues & Wed 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.; Sat 10 a.m. - 2 a.m.; Sun 10 a.m. - 11 p.m.**
- **Rating: *****
- **Price range: $3.50 - $17**

Classic Macaroni and Cheese

Ingredients:

- 1.5 l (6 cups) cooked macaroni
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) butter
- 1 l (4 cups) evaporated milk
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) sour cream
- 1.5 l (6 cups) old cheddar cheese, shredded
- 10 ml (2 tsp) salt
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) black pepper

Classic Macaroni and Cheese

Preparation:

With Christmas shopping, festive school concerts and the hectic pace everyone endures during the holiday season, turning to your slow cooker for help to get meals on the table with little fuss makes perfect sense.

This comforting classic is perfect for such a time and it will no doubt become a family favourite. Serve with a veggie salad.

1. In a mixing bowl, toss macaroni with butter.
2. Stir in evaporated milk, sour cream, cheese, salt and pepper.
3. Place in a slow cooker. Cover; cook on low for 4 to 6 hours. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

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Banff Air + 5 Nights $599
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Las Vegas Air + 4 Nights $235
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INCLUDES accom on the Las Vegas Strip. Departs Feb 6/swg/wg. UPGRADE to the 4-star Luxor for $18 per night.

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Penguins march over Maple Leafs

Crosby keeps up his offensive onslaught with pair of goals

5	2
PENGUINS	LEAFS

Sidney Crosby scored twice during his fourth multiple-goal game in his last six, and the Pittsburgh Penguins won their 11th game in a row by beating the Toronto Maple Leafs 5-2 last night.

The Penguins, 12-0-1 since last losing in regulation Nov. 10, are on the second-longest winning streak in franchise history. Their only longer run was an NHL-record 17-game streak during a 119-point season in 1993.

That's back when Wayne Gretzky and Mario Lemieux regularly scored goals in bunches, but during a much different era when goals don't come as easily and 100-point scorers are scarce.

The 23-year-old Crosby is on a remarkable scoring pace. The former NHL MVP and scoring champion has 20 goals and 15 assists during a 17-game scoring streak that is two shy of his career best, and he has 14 goals during Pittsburgh's winning streak.

Crosby also has nine goals in the Penguins' last four home games and has at least one goal in 13 of 17 games.

There's more: Crosby has figured in 22 of the Penguins' 37 goals during a streak that began after they lost a 2-1 lead in the final minute of a 3-2 overtime loss to the Rangers Nov. 15.

Chris Kunitz had three assists for Pittsburgh, and Mark Letestu scored twice after going 22 games without a goal.

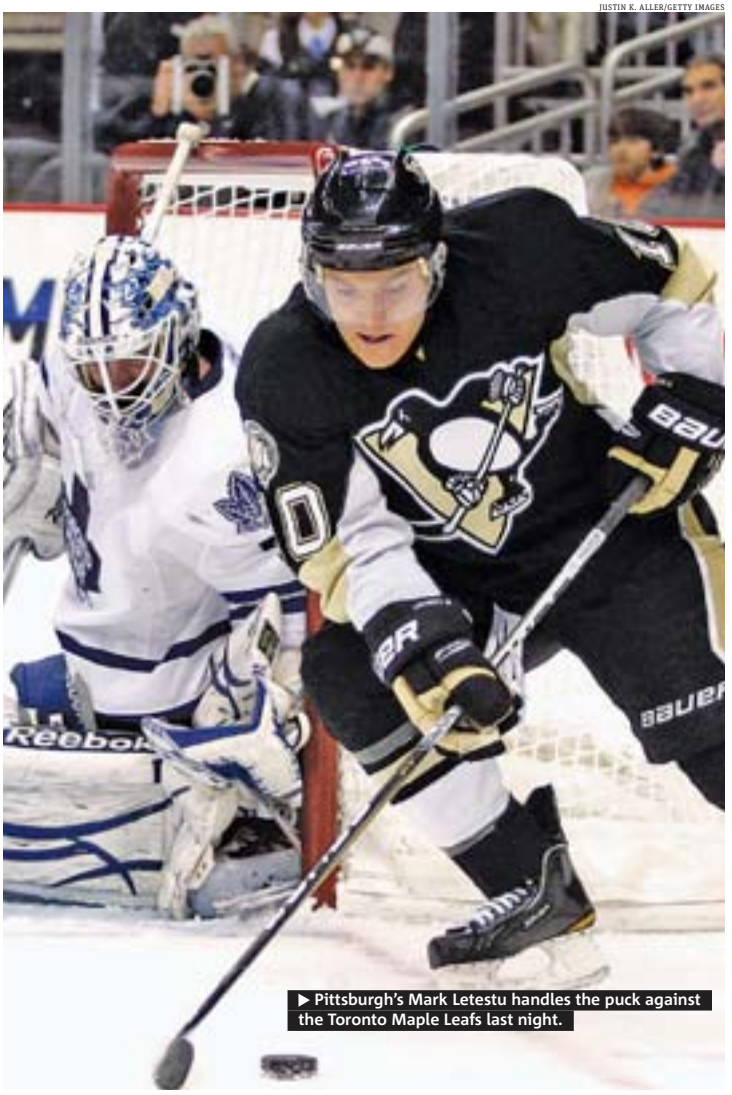
Crosby nearly got his third hat trick in four games, using an inside-out move to fool goalie Jonas Gustavsson in the opening 30 seconds of the third period, but the puck trickled off his stick inches shy of the goal-line.

Crosby opened the scoring at 8:35 of the first, missing on his initial attempt to put Kunitz's rebound past Gustavsson before going to his backhand to score a moment later.

The frustrated Maple Leafs then gave up three goals in just more than five minutes of the second period, amid a series of four fights that finally provided the motivational lift coach Ron Wilson probably hoped they would. Only it was too late.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JUSTIN K. ALLER/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Pittsburgh's Mark Letestu handles the puck against the Toronto Maple Leafs last night.

Raptors Knicked by New York on late three

113	110
KNICKS	RAPTORS

Raymond Felton's tie-breaking three-pointer bounced on the rim five times and finally went in with 2.7 seconds left, giving the New York Knicks a 113-110 victory over the Toronto Raptors last night that extended their winning streak to six.

Amare Stoudemire extended his 30-point streak to six games in sensational fashion, scoring 18 of his 34 points in the fourth quarter and grabbing 14 rebounds. His jumper gave New York a 110-107 lead with 57 seconds remaining and sparked "MVP!" chants at Madison Square Garden.

But after Andrea Bargnani tied it with a three, Felton launched his three that also hit the backboard once after Stoudemire couldn't get free.

The point guard finished with 28 points and 11 assists, scoring 20 in the first half to carry the Knicks before Stoudemire got rolling.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports in brief

Gators coach is stepping down

COLLEGE FOOTBALL. Florida football coach Urban Meyer is stepping down after the Gators appearance in the Outback Bowl.

Meyer led Florida to two U.S. national titles but began to show the strain of his high-profile job last season when he briefly quit but then returned to the team.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vick now top vote-getter

NFL. Michael Vick leads Pro Bowl voting 18 months after he was released from prison.

The Philadelphia Eagles quarterback had 729,838 fan votes, nearly 39,000 more than second-place Peyton Manning, the NFL said yesterday.

Manning had 691,146 votes, which led the AFC, followed by New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady (623,074).

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 sports

Quoted

"Mario Lemieux told me I finally look like a hockey player."

BEN ROETHLISBERGER. THE STEELERS QB IS WALKING AROUND WITH A LARGE BANDAGE ON HIS BROKEN NOSE AND A PROTECTIVE BOOT ON HIS PAINFULLY INJURED RIGHT FOOT.

"I did a CT scan before the surgery (Monday) and they said everything was still holding up really well and they were really pleased with that ... The plates and everything in my face were fine, so that's good."

ROETHLISBERGER

Scan code for more sports

‘I’m ready’: Lawrie

Recently-acquired prospect plans to open next season with Blue Jays

Brett Lawrie has already broken the news to Toronto Blue Jays general manager Alex Anthopoulos.

He’s through with the minor leagues and is making the team out of spring training.

“Yeah, if he doesn’t know it then he should have known it when he was picking me,” the newly acquired prospect said from Los Angeles, where he was visiting fiancée Sydney Leroux, a forward on UCLA’s soccer team.

“He told me he didn’t get me because he wants me to play in the minor leagues, so that obviously tells me he wants me to be in the big leagues. Traded for a big league starter, what can I say?

“He’s been trying to get me for a long time, he really wants me to play major league baseball. And I’m looking forward to it in the near future here.”

Did you know?

- Lawrie, the 16th overall pick in the 2008 draft — the highest a Canadian position player has ever been selected — was chosen as a catcher but installed at second base by the Brewers once he turned pro.

The 20-year-old from Langley, B.C., picked up Monday from the Milwaukee Brewers for right-hander Shaun Marcum, certainly does not lack in confidence.

Just two years into his professional career, coming off a solid season with double-A Huntsville, Lawrie made it clear that he’s intent on winning a job with the Blue Jays in 2011, and sees no need for a stint at triple-A Las Vegas.

“Nah, I’m ready,” he said, not a hint of doubt in his voice. “My goals are what they’ve always been — I’m looking for major league baseball, I’m not looking for minor league baseball.

“I figure I’m good, I’m done, I’m pretty good at minor league baseball so I think it’s time to (take) a shot at major league baseball. So my goal is to try and break with the team out of spring training and see what I can do.”

The Blue Jays, on the other hand, are likely to have a different timeline in mind for the latest addition to their stockpile of young talent. They still have much to determine about Lawrie, like where exactly he’s going to play, before his readiness for such a jump can be properly assessed.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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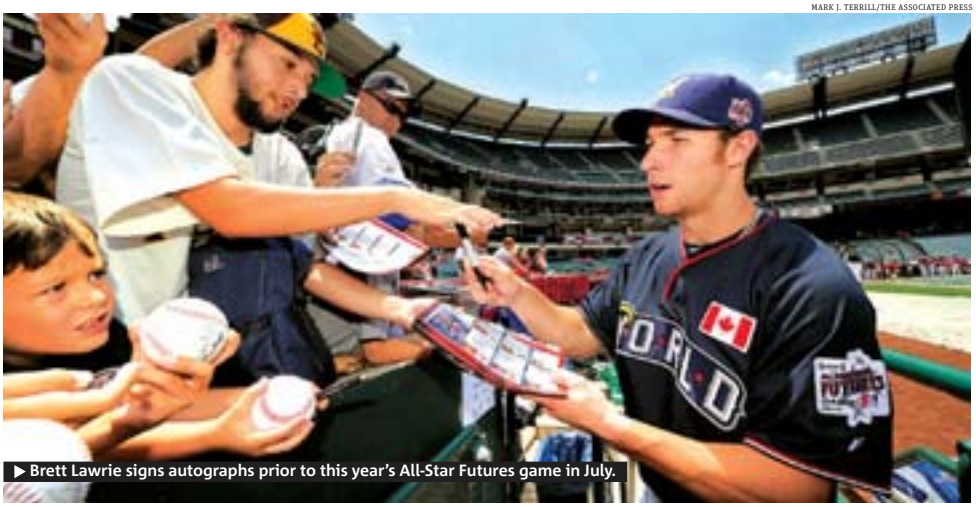

▶ Brett Lawrie signs autographs prior to this year’s All-Star Futures game in July.

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Sports in brief

Konerko re-ups with White Sox

MLB. Paul Konerko has decided to stay with the Chicago White Sox, agreeing to a $37.5-million US, three-year contract yesterday.

The 34-year-old was fifth in voting for AL MVP this year after hitting .312 with 39 homers and 111 RBIs. He’ll be part of a lineup that now includes slugger Adam Dunn, recently signed to a $56-million, four-year deal.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Yankees make offer to Lee

MLB. The New York Yankees have made their first formal contract offer to pitcher Cliff Lee.

Yankees general manager Brian Cashman said the team presented a proposal. He didn’t say how much it was worth or for how many years.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Judge delays Clemens trial

MLB. A judge yesterday postponed the trial of baseball star Roger Clemens for three months until July so his attorneys can review the voluminous evidence generated during a 2½-year investigation into whether he lied about using performance enhancing drugs.

At a hearing in Washington federal court, prosecutors said the case has produced some 54,000 pages of evidence.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pujols deal unlikely during season: Manager

MLB. Tony La Russa predicts a contract extension for Cardinals star Albert Pujols will come either before spring training or after the season — nothing in between.

“I know Albert well enough that once he gets into spring training, he doesn’t like distractions,” the Cardinals manager said yesterday at the baseball winter meetings.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pena, Cubs agree to one-year, $10M deal

First baseman Carlos Pena and the Chicago Cubs have agreed to a $10-million US, one-year contract.

Pena spent the last four seasons with Tampa Bay.

He had a down year in 2010, hitting .196 with 28 homers and 84 RBIs, down from a .227 average with 39 homers and 100 RBIs the previous year, when he was selected for the AL All-Star team.

His first season with the club was his best, when he batted .282 with 46 homers and 121 RBIs in 2007.

Tampa Bay won the AL East this year then lost to Texas in a five-game, first-round series, but the Rays appear to be cutting back on payroll.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

149

Pena joins a Chicago team that was tied for ninth in the NL with 149 home runs last year. Only Aramis Ramirez (25), Alfonso Soriano (24) and Tyler Colvin (20) reached the 20 mark.

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Example: $10,000 at 0% or 2.9% APR, monthly payment is $208.33/$220.90 for 48 months. Cost of borrowing is $0/$603.20, total obligation is $10,000/$10,603.20. Down payment and/or trade may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will also vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. ¥Variable rate financing for 84 months at 3.0% APR (3.0% APR for 2011 Chevrolet Malibu LS 1FC/Equinox LS FWD 1FA) OAC by Ally Credit. Rates from other lenders will vary with rate fluctuations. Example: $10,000 at 3% for 84 months, the monthly payment is $136.13. Cost of borrowing is $1,043.92, total obligation is $11,043.92. Down payment and/or trade may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will also vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. ΔΔ2011 Chevrolet Malibu with 2.4L ECOTEC I-4 engine, 6-speed automatic transmission and 2.4L Ecotec engine and comparably equipped 4-cyl. automatic transmission) 2011 Toyota Camry and 2011 Ford Fusion. Fuel consumption ratings based on Natural Resources Canada's 2010 Fuel Consumption Guide. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. ©The Best Buy Seal is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications, LLC, used under license. ©Chevrolet Malibu and Equinox are an insurance institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) Top Safety Pick for 2010. For more information go to www.iihs.org. †2011 Chevrolet Malibu LT Platinum Edition, MSRP with freight, PDI & fees $29,488. 2011 Chevrolet Equinox LTZ, MSRP with freight, PDI & fees $35,244. Dealers are free to set individual prices. ††Subject to Vehicle Redemption Allowances. Visit thegmcard.ca for more details including terms and conditions that apply to the GM Card Earnings and Redemption Program. The Toronto-Dominion Bank and its affiliates are not responsible for the GM Card Earnings and Redemption Program. §Based on Natural Resources Canada's 2010 Fuel Consumption Guide. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. ‡‡Based on 2011 Chevrolet Malibu LS 1FC/Equinox LS FWD 1FA with 2.4L ECOTEC I-4 engine, 6-speed automatic transmission and 2.4L Ecotec engine and comparably equipped 4-cyl. automatic transmission) 2011 Toyota Camry and 2011 Ford Fusion. Fuel consumption ratings based on Natural Resources Canada's 2010 Fuel Consumption Guide. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. ΔBased on 2011 Chevrolet Malibu LS 1FC/Equinox LS FWD 1FA with 2.4L ECOTEC I-4 engine, 6-speed automatic transmission and 2.4L Ecotec engine and comparably equipped 4-cyl. automatic transmission) 2011 Toyota Camry and 2011 Ford Fusion. Fuel consumption ratings based on Natural Resources Canada's 2010 Fuel Consumption Guide. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. Excludes hybrid models. 2011 Chevrolet Equinox FWD equipped with standard 2.4L ECOTEC I-4 engine. Fuel consumption ratings based on GM testing in accordance with approved Transport Canada test methods. Competitive fuel ratings based on Natural Resources Canada's 2010 Fuel Consumption Guide. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. ΔΔ2011 Chevrolet Malibu with 2.4L ECOTEC I-4 engine, 6-speed automatic transmission and 2.4L Ecotec engine and comparably equipped 4-cyl. automatic transmission) 2011 Toyota Camry and 2011 Ford Fusion. Fuel consumption ratings based on Natural Resources Canada's 2010 Fuel Consumption Guide. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. ©The Best Buy Seal is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications, LLC, used under license. ©Chevrolet Malibu and Equinox are an insurance institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) Top Safety Pick for 2010. For more information go to www.iihs.org. †2011 Chevrolet Malibu LT Platinum Edition, MSRP with freight, PDI & fees $29,488. 2011 Chevrolet Equinox LTZ, MSRP with freight, PDI & fees $35,244. Dealers are free to set individual prices. ††Subject to Vehicle Redemption Allowances. 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NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Pittsburgh	30	20	8	2	0	96	69	42	10-5-1-0	10-3-1-0	10-0-0-0	W11
d-Washington	29	18	8	1	2	96	79	39	12-2-0-2	6-6-1-0	4-4-0-2	L3
d-Montreal	28	18	8	2	0	75	54	38	11-4-2-0	7-4-0-0	6-3-1-0	W3
Philadelphia	29	17	7	2	3	99	74	39	10-5-0-2	7-2-2-1	5-2-0-3	L1
Boston	26	15	8	0	3	75	52	33	6-5-0-2	9-3-0-1	5-3-0-2	W1
Tampa Bay	27	15	9	2	1	84	94	33	7-2-1-1	8-7-1-0	7-2-0-1	W1
Atlanta	28	15	10	1	2	88	80	33	9-5-0-1	6-5-1-1	8-2-0-0	W2
NY Rangers	29	16	12	1	0	83	77	33	6-8-1-0	10-4-0-0	6-4-0-0	L1
Buffalo	28	11	13	4	0	70	76	26	5-8-1-0	6-5-3-0	5-4-1-0	L1
Ottawa	29	12	15	1	1	62	85	26	7-7-0-1	5-8-1-0	3-6-0-1	L1
Carolina	26	11	12	0	3	75	84	25	6-5-0-1	5-7-0-2	3-4-0-3	L1
Florida	27	12	15	0	0	70	73	24	6-5-0-0	6-10 0-0	3-7-0-0	L1
Toronto	27	10	13	2	2	61	81	24	7-5-2-1	3-8-0-1	4-5-1-0	L1
New Jersey	27	8	17	1	1	50	81	18	4-6-1-1	4-11-0-0	3-7-0-0	L3
NY Islanders	25	5	15	3	2	53	83	15	3-6-1-1	2-9-2-1	1-6-2-1	L3

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Detroit	26	17	6	2	1	88	70	37	10-3-1-1	7-3-1-0	5-3-2-0	L3
d-Dallas	26	16	8	0	2	76	69	34	10-3-0-1	6-5-0-1	7-1-0-2	L1
d-Vancouver	25	14	8	1	2	80	64	31	8-3-0-1	6-5-1-1	5-4-1-0	L1
Phoenix	26	13	7	4	2	74	72	32	5-3-2-2	8-4-2-0	7-2-0-1	W1
San Jose	27	14	9	4	0	83	77	32	7-4-2-0	7-5-2-0	5-4-1-0	W2
Nashville	27	13	8	4	2	68	70	32	5-1-3-2	8-7-1-0	5-2-1-2	W1
Chicago	29	15	12	1	1	90	84	32	7-8-0-0	8-4-1-1	7-3-0-0	W1
Columbus	26	15	10	0	1	70	71	31	7-7-0-1	8-3-0-0	5-4-0-1	W1
Anaheim	30	14	13	2	1	74	89	31	9-6-0-1	5-7-2-0	4-5-1-0	W1
Los Angeles	25	15	10	0	0	69	61	30	10-2-0-0	5-8-0-0	3-7-0-0	W2
St. Louis	26	13	9	2	2	67	72	30	8-2-0-1	5-7-2-1	4-5-1-0	W1
Colorado	27	13	10	4	0	94	86	30	7-4-1-0	6-6-3-0	4-3-3-0	L4
Minnesota	26	11	11	1	3	63	76	26	7-6-0-2	4-5-1-1	3-5-1-1	L5
Calgary	28	12	14	1	1	78	84	26	7-6-0-0	5-8-1-1	4-4-1-1	W1
Edmonton	27	10	12	1	4	72	96	25	4-6-1-1	6-6-1-2	6-2-0-2	L1

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results
San Jose 5 Philadelphia 4 (SO)
Pittsburgh 5 Toronto 2
Nashville 3 Detroit 2
Dallas at Chicago
Anaheim at Vancouver
Tuesday's results
Anaheim 3 Edmonton 2 (SO)
Boston 3 Buffalo 2 (OT)
Calgary 4 Tampa Bay 2
Florida 4 Colorado 3 (OT)
Montreal 4 Ottawa 1
Tonight's games
(All times Eastern)
N.Y. Islanders at Boston, 7 p.m.
San Jose at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Florida at Washington, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.
Columbus at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Minnesota at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Calgary at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

PENGUINS 5, LEAFS 2

First Period
1. Pittsburgh, Crosby 25 (Kunitz, Cooke) 8:35
Penalties — Toronto bench (too many men; served by Kessel) 5:26, Crosby Pgh (roughing) 6:13, Asham Pgh (roughing) 12:49, Orr Tor, Engelland Pgh (fighting) 15:47.
Second Period
2. Pittsburgh, Dupuis 7 (Kunitz) 11:38 (sh)
3. Pittsburgh, Letestu 5 (Kennedy, Conner) 13:13
4. Pittsburgh, Crosby 26 (Kunitz, Orpik) 14:46
Penalties — Toronto bench (too many men; served by Orr) 5:11, Adams Pgh (boarding) 10:25, Komisarek Tor, Asham Pgh (fighting) 16:03, Kessel Tor (slashing) 16:47, Versteeg Tor (slashing), Fleury Pgh (slashing; served by Conner) 19:44.
Third Period
5. Toronto, Bozak 4 (Kessel, Versteeg) 4:36 (pp)
6. Toronto, Grabovski 7 (Kaberle, Kulemin) 8:38
7. Pittsburgh, Letestu 6 (Kennedy, Goligoski) 17:06
Penalties — Komisarek Tor (roughing, fighting), Rupp Pgh (boarding, fighting) 3:03, Rosehill Tor (charging, fighting), Godard Pgh (instigator, fighting, misconduct), Crosby Pgh (cross-checking, roughing) 3:43, Cooke Pgh (tripping) 9:42.

Shots

Toronto	4	6	15	25
Pittsburgh	13	11	2	26

Goal — Toronto: Gustavsson (L,4-8-2); Pittsburgh: Fleury (W,13-6-1). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Toronto: 1-6; Pittsburgh: 0-3. **Att.endance** — 18,158 (18,087) at Pittsburgh.

LATE TUESDAY

DUCKS 3, OILERS 2 (SO)

First Period — No scoring
Penalties Mara Ana (roughing) 3:31.
Second Period
1. Anaheim, Koivu 10 (Selanne, Fowler) 5:44
Penalties — Marchant Ana (hooking) 6:33, Vandermeer Edm (boarding) 11:35, Whitney Edm (hooking) 17:10.
Third Period
2. Anaheim, Selanne 9 (Sutton, Koivu) 6:32
3. Edmonton, Jones 7 (Paajarvi, Gilbert) 10:29
4. Edmonton, Penner 9 (Foster, Gilbert) 13:39 (pp)
Penalties Mara Ana (roughing) 0:11, Jacques Edm (roughing) 0:11, Sutton Ana (interference) 11:41, Gilbert Edm (delay of game) 17:31.
Overtime — No Scoring.
Shootout — (Anaheim wins 2-1)
Anaheim (2) — Lupul, goal; Selanne, miss; Perry, miss; Getzlaf, miss; Koivu, miss; Blake, miss; Ryan, miss; Visnovsky, miss; Lydman, miss; Fowler, goal
Edmonton (1) — Gagner, miss; Eberle, miss; Hall, goal; Brule, miss; Penner, miss; Paajarvi, miss; Jones, miss; Foster, miss; Cogliano, miss; Fraser, miss

Shots

Anaheim	8	9	12	3—32
Edmonton	10	7	15	4—36

Goal (shots-saves) — Anaheim: Hiller (W, 12-11-2, 36-34); Edmonton: Khabibulin (SOL, 6-10-2 , 32-30). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Anaheim: 0-3; Edmonton: 1-3.
Att. — 16,839 (16,839) at Edmonton.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
Crosby, Pgh	24	24	48
Stamkos, TB	21	19	40
Ovechkin, Wash	12	23	35
St. Louis, TB	11	23	34
Semin, Wash	18	15	33
Backstrom, Wash	11	21	32

Not including last night's games

SOCCER

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

First Round
x — clinched berth in second round
THIRD-PLACE TEAMS ADVANCE TO EUROPA LEAGUE
(home teams listed first)
Group A

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt
x-Tottenham	6	3	2	1	18	11	11
x-Inter Milan	6	3	1	2	12	11	10
Twente	6	1	3	2	9	11	6
Werder Bremen	6	1	2	3	6	12	5

x — clinched berth in second round
Tuesday's results
Twente 3 Tottenham 3
Werder Bremen 3 Inter Milan 0
Group B

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt
	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
x-Schalke	6	4	1	1	10	3	13
x-Lyon	6	3	1	2	11	10	10
Benfica	6	2	0	4	7	12	6
Hapoel Tel Aviv	6	1	2	3	7	10	5

x — clinched berth in second round.
Tuesday's reuslts
Benfica 1 Schalke 2
Lyon 2 Hapoel Tel-Aviv 2
Group C

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt
x-Manchester Utd	6	4	2	0	7	1	14
x-Valencia	6	3	2	1	15	4	11
Glasgow Rangers	6	1	3	2	3	6	6
Buraspor	6	0	1	5	2	16	1

Tuesday's results
Bursaspor 1 Glasgow Rangers 1
Manchester United 1 Valencia 1
Group D

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt
x-Barcelona	6	4	2	0	14	3	14
x-Copenhagen	6	3	1	2	7	5	10
Rubin Kazan	6	1	3	2	2	4	6
Panathinaikos	6	0	2	4	2	13	2

Tuesday's results
Barcelona 2 Rubin Kazan 0
Copenhagen 3 Panathinaikos 1
Group E

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt
x-Bayern Munich	6	5	0	1	16	6	15
x-AS Roma	6	3	1	2	10	9	10
Basel	6	2	0	4	8	11	6
Cluj	6	1	1	4	6	12	4

Yesterday's results
Bayern Munich 3 Basel 0
Cluj 1 AS Roma 1
Group F

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt
x-Chelsea	6	5	0	1	14	4	15
x-Marseille	6	4	0	2	12	3	12
Spartak Moscow	6	3	0	3	7	10	9
Zilina	6	0	0	6	3	19	0

Yesterday's results
Marseille 1 Chelsea 0
Zilina 1 Spartak Moscow 2
Group G

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt
	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
x-Real Madrid	6	5	1	0	15	2	16
x-AC Milan	6	2	2	2	7	7	8
Ajax	6	2	1	3	6	10	7
Auxerre	6	1	0	5	3	12	3

Yesterday's results
AC Milan 0 Ajax 2
Real Madrid 4 Auxerre 0
Group H

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt
x-Shakhtar Donetsk	6	5	0	1	12	6	15
x-Arsenal	6	4	0	2	18	7	12
Braga	6	3	0	3	5	11	9
Partizan Belgrade	6	0	0	6	2	13	0

Yesterday's results
Arsenal 3 Partizan Belgrade 1
Shakhtar Donetsk 2 Braga 0
End of First Round

FIFA CLUB WORLD CUP

PLAYOFF

At Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
Yesterday's results
Al Wahda (United Arab Emirates) 3 Hekari United (Papua New Guinea) 0

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Boston	17	4	.810	—
d-Orlando	15	6	.714	2
Atlanta	15	8	.652	3
Miami	14	8	.636	3½
New York	14	9	.609	4
d-Chicago	12	8	.600	4½
Indiana	10	9	.526	6
Charlotte	8	13	.381	9
Toronto	8	14	.364	9½
Milwaukee	7	13	.350	9½
Philadelphia	7	14	.333	10
Cleveland	7	15	.318	10½
Detroit	7	15	.318	10½
Washington	6	14	.300	10½
New Jersey	6	16	.273	11½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-San Antonio	17	3	.850	—
Dallas	17	4	.810	½
d-Utah	16	6	.727	2
d-L.A. Lakers	15	6	.714	2½
New Orleans	13	7	.650	4
Oklahoma City	14	8	.636	4
Denver	13	8	.619	4½
Phoenix	11	10	.524	6½
Portland	10	11	.476	7½
Golden State	8	13	.381	9½
Houston	8	13	.381	9½
Memphis	8	14	.364	10
Minnesota	5	16	.238	12½
L.A. Clippers	5	17	.227	13
Sacramento	4	15	.211	12½

d-division leader
Last night's results
Boston 105 Denver 89
Chicago 88 Cleveland 83
New York 113 Toronto 110
Indiana at Milwaukee
Oklahoma City at Minnesota
Detroit at New Orleans
Golden State at San Antonio
Memphis at Phoenix
Miami at Utah
Washington at Sacramento
L.A. Lakers at L.A. Clippers
Tuesday's results
Atlanta 116, New Jersey 101
Charlotte 100, Denver 98
Philadelphia 117, Cleveland 97
Dallas 105, Golden State 100
Houston 97, Detroit 83
Portland 106, Phoenix 99
L.A. Lakers 115, Washington 108
Tonight's games
(All times Eastern)
Boston at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.
New Jersey at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Orlando at Portland, 10:30 p.m.
Tomorrow's games
Charlotte at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Denver at Toronto, 7 p.m.
New York at Washington, 7 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Detroit at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Oklahoma City at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Houston at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.
Atlanta at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Portland at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Orlando at Utah, 9 p.m.
Miami at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Durant, OKC	18	157	155	494	27.4
Bryant, LAL	21	192	149	561	26.7
Stoudemire, NYK	22	206	139	556	25.3
Nowitzki, DAL	21	202	103	523	24.9
Rose, CHI	18	172	78	448	24.9
Ellis, GOL	21	201	89	521	24.8
Gordon, LAC	20	156	149	486	24.3
James, MIA	22	172	156	522	23.7
Westbrook, OKC	22	172	171	521	23.7
Anthony, DEN	20	157	127	455	22.8
Martin, HOU	21	130	165	470	22.4
Williams, UTA	22	162	123	480	21.8
Beasley, MIN	19	166	65	414	21.8
Wade, MIA	21	158	128	456	21.7
Gay, MEM	22	184	75	474	21.5
Granger, IND	19	144	72	406	21.4
Curry, GOL	19	149	70	402	21.2
Scola, HOU	21	178	85	441	21.0

Not including last night's games

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE
CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Agreed to terms with 1B Paul Konerko on a three-year contract.
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Agreed to terms with C Paul Phillips on a minor league contract.
KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Agreed to terms with OF Jeff Francoeur on a one-year contract.
NATIONAL LEAGUE
CHICAGO CUBS — Agreed to terms with 1B Carlos Pena on a one-year contract.

FOOTBALL

NFL

CINCINNATI BENGALS — Placed CB Brandon Ghee on injured reserve. Signed LB Vincent Rey from the practice squad.
MIAMI DOLPHINS — Placed CB Al Harris on injured reserve. Signed OL Ray Feinga.
NEW ORLEANS SAINTS — Placed RB Ladell Betts on injured reserve. Signed LB Kawika Mitchell.
NEW YORK JETS — Released WR Laveranues Coles. Signed S Emanuel Cook. Released OT Andre Ramsey from the practice squad.
ST. LOUIS RAMS — Signed LB David Nixon. Signed LB Maurice Simpkins to the practice squad.

HOCKEY

NHL

BOSTON BRUINS — Recalled D Steve Kampfer from Providence (AHL) on an emergency basis.
CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS — Recalled F Jeremy Morin and F Rob Klinkhammer from Rockford (AHL). Placed F Marian Hossa on injured reserve.
DALLAS STARS — Recalled G Richard Bachman from Texas (AHL) on emergency conditions.
DETROIT RED WINGS — Assigned D Jakub Kindl to Grand Rapids (AHL) for conditioning.

AHL

NORFOLK ADMIRALS — Signed F Pierre-Cedric Labrie to a two-year contract.
WORCESTER SHARKS — Re-signed F Jonathan Cheechoo.

SNOWBOARDING

SNOWBOARDCROSS

At Leach Am Arlberg, Austria
Women
1. Dominique Maltais, Petite-Riviere-St-Francois, Que., 1,000 points; 2. Maelle Ricker, Whistler, B.C., 800; 3. Alexandra Jekova, Bulgaria, 600
World Cup Snowboardcross Standings
1. Dominique Maltais, Petite-Riviere-St-Francois, Que., 2,000 points; 2. Maelle Ricker, Whistler, B.C., 1,600; 3. Alexandra Jekova, Bulgaria, 1,000
Overall World Cup Standings
1. Dominique Maltais, Petite-Riviere-St-Francois, Que., 2,000 points; 2. Maelle Ricker, Whistler, B.C., 1,600; 3. Ekaterina Tudegesheva, Russia, 1,000
Men
1. Luca Matteotti, Italy, 1,000 points; 2. Alex Pullin, Australia, 800; 3. Paul-Henri De le Rue, France, 600; **Also: 8. Francois Boivin, Jonquiere, Que., 320; 10. Robert Fagan, Cranbrook, B.C., 260.**
World Cup Snowboardcross Standings
1. Nate Holland, U.S., 1,200 points; 2. Luca Matteotti, Italy, 1,160; 3. Mario Fuchs, Austria, 1,100
Overall World Cup Standings
1. Nate Holland, U.S., 1,200 points; 2. Luca Matteotti, Italy, 1,160; 3. Mario Fuchs, Austria, 1,110; 4. Andreas Promegger, Austria, 1,000; 5. Paul-Henri De le Rue, France, 890.

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

EAST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	10	2	0	.833	379	269
N.Y. Jets	9	3	0	.750	267	232
Miami	6	6	0	.500	215	238
Buffalo	2	10	0	.167	243	333
SOUTH						
Jacksonville	7	5	0	.583	257	300
Indianapolis	6	6	0	.500	317	290
Houston	5	7	0	.417	288	321
Tennessee	5	7	0	.417	263	235
NORTH						
Pittsburgh	9	3	0	.750	267	191
Baltimore	8	4	0	.667	260	201
Cleveland	5	7	0	.417	229	239
Cincinnati	2	10	0	.167	255	322
WEST						
Kansas City	8	4	0	.667	295	237
Oakland	6	6	0	.500	283	269
San Diego	6	6	0	.500	323	253
Denver	3	9	0	.250	256	333

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

EAST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	8	4	0	.667	308	247
Philadelphia	8	4	0	.667	344	281
Washington	5	7	0	.417	222	293
Dallas	4	8	0	.333	294	336
SOUTH						
Atlanta	10	2	0	.833	304	233
New Orleans	9	3	0	.750	299	227
Tampa Bay	7	5	0	.583	243	251
Carolina	1	11	0	.083	154	307
NORTH						
Chicago	9	3	0	.750	246	192
Green Bay	8	4	0	.667	303	182
Minnesota	5	7	0	.417	227	253
Detroit	2	10	0	.167	278	306
WEST						
Seattle	6	6	0	.500	240	289
St. Louis	6	6	0	.500	232	237
San Francisco	4	8	0	.333	203	259
Arizona	3	9	0	.250	200	338

WEEK 14

Tonight's game
(All times Eastern)
Indianapolis at Tennessee, 8:20 p.m.
Sunday's games
N.Y. Giants at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Washington, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Green Bay at Detroit, 1 p.m.
Oakland at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Seattle at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.
St. Louis at New Orleans, 4:05 p.m.
Kansas City at San Diego, 4:15 p.m.
Denver at Arizona, 4:15 p.m.
New England at Chicago, 4:15 p.m.
Miami at N.Y. Jets, 4:15 p.m.
Philadelphia at Dallas, 8:20 p.m.
Monday's game
Baltimore at Houston, 8:30 p.m.

GOLF

LPGA TOUR QUALIFYING

At Daytona Beach, Fla.
Par 72
First Round

Reilley Rankin	34-33—67
Libby Smith	34-33—67
Aree Song	34-33—67
Belen Mozo	33-35—68
Pernilla Lindberg	32-36—68
Jimin Jeong	34-35—69
Ayaka Kaneko	34-35—69
Angela Buzminski	**36-34—70**
Ashleigh Simon	37-33—70
Dewi Claire Schreefel	33-37—70
Angela Oh	35-35—70
Mollie Fankhauser	37-33—70
Shasta Averyhardt	35-35—70

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Favre still unsure he'll play Sunday

Brett Favre's sprained throwing shoulder is making it difficult for him to put on a shirt or pull on his socks, so the 41-year-old is going to wait a few days before he decides about playing against the New York Giants Sunday.

Favre said yesterday he is unsure if he will be able to extend his NFL record for consecutive games started against the Giants.

The Vikings quarterback hopes a few more days of rest will provide some clarity for him to make a decision by tomorrow, but interim coach Leslie Frazier said he wouldn't be surprised if it goes right up until game time.

Favre has started 297 straight regular-season games, a record he cherishes more than any other he has achieved over the past 20 seasons.

But if that mark ends Sunday, Favre insisted he is fine with that.

"It really hasn't crossed my mind this week that I've got to get out there to keep the streak going," Favre said.

"I think the most important streak right now is we've won two in a row."

Favre did not practise yesterday and said it was unlikely that he would get much work in this week. He has played through numerous injuries throughout his career to keep the remarkable streak going, a reputation for toughness that has Frazier thinking Favre will be ready to go again this week. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"Brett Favre is so, so unique when it comes to recovering from injuries." LESLIE FRAZIER

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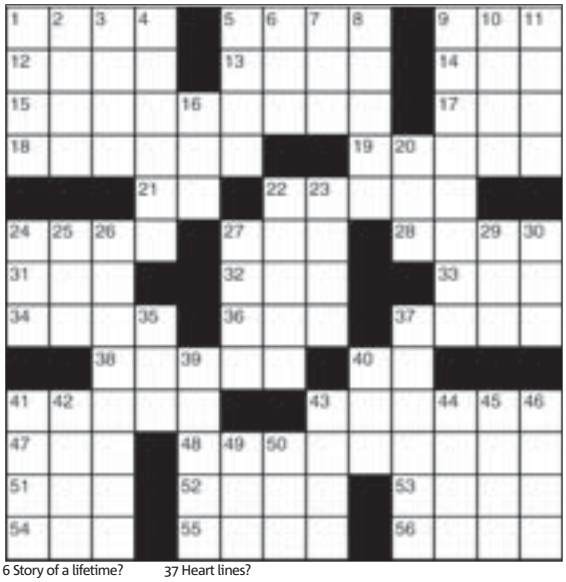

Across

1 Minuscule bit
5 Lend an illegal hand
9 Eviscerate
12 Trademark symbol
13 Old Italian money
14 Spring mo.
15 Travel while campaigning
17 Fish eggs
18 Mono alternative
19 Minimal change
21 Yoked beast
22 Saw
24 "The Amazing —"
27 Bear hair
28 Pirates' quaff
31 Geological period
32 Anger
33 Mate of 37-Across
34 Predicate necessity
36 Legislation
37 Mate of 33-Across
38 Cancels out
40 "Forget it!"
41 "— Foolish Things"
43 One side of the Urals
47 Old garment
48 "Phooey!"
51 Clay, today
52 Incite
53 On the briny
54 "Ulalume" writer
55 "Desire Under the —"
56 Ollie's pal

Down

1 Church vestments
2 Perfectly
3 Fairy tale baddie
4 Fifth President
5 Choir member
6 Story of a lifetime?
7 Screw up
8 Florida city
9 Accumulated
10 Informed about
11 Deuce beater
16 Gender
20 Early bird?
22 Emanations
23 TV host Carey
24 Gun the engine
25 Exist
26 Noted steel tycoon
27 Stuff
29 Eggs
30 Prized possession
35 Clear the tables
37 Heart lines?
39 Sill
40 Rapa — (Easter Island)
41 Snare
42 Head light?
43 Tackles' teammates
44 Brewer's kiln
45 Entreaty
46 Vivacity
49 "You've got mail" co.
50. Aries

▶ Yesterday's answer

Sudoku

5			2		9			6
	9		8		1		3	
		8				9		
		9	3		7	1		
2								9
		3	5		6	4		
		6				7		
	2		7		3		5	
4			6		8			1

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

Send a KISS

Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

This time last year, I wondered when the girl of my dreams would make her grand entrance. Thanks to you sweetheart, I am no longer asking this question. It has been a wonderful experience for me to be journeying through this part of my life. I would like you to know how grateful I am to have you in my life. **SURUJPAUL**

Muah! Sending a birthday kiss to a very special someone...May you continue to be the handsome, loving, and talented young man you are...I am so happy to share another birthday with you babe. Love you SO much. **P.**

Jayman, you make the happiest person ever! I am the luckiest girl ever to have you. I love you more than anything and Xmas break can't come soon enough. MISS YOU **YOUR SARE-BEAR**

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 Keep reminding yourself that all things are possible. The obstacles you encounter today are not there to stop you but to encourage you to climb higher.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 You'll feel a lot more confident about your prospects today, even though nothing much has actually changed. Maybe you can sense that it won't be long before a more positive and productive cycle begins.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 Try to deal with people who annoy you with courtesy. It may be easier to lose your temper, and you may have every reason to do so, but a more considerate approach will work wonders.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Stay on top of your workload today. If you let things slide, you will find it difficult to catch up later. The best way to get things done and still have time to yourself is to delegate. Trust those with whom you work.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 Be assured that the efforts you make, both at home and at work, will pay off. It may seem as if you are putting yourself out for no gain, but important changes are taking place behind the scenes.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 It would appear that you are taking certain issues far too seriously. OK, so others may be behaving in ways that you do not approve of, but so what?

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 Resist the temptation to draw attention to something that is likely to embarrass a loved one or friend. It may be good for a laugh but it will be held against you. Be nice.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Money matters and business issues are good, but that does not mean you have the green light to get involved in something that clearly has unacceptable risks. Can you afford to lose a fortune?

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 A dispute of some kind is likely today. But with any luck, it will be over as quickly as it started. Even without luck you are advised not to take it seriously.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You seem to be expecting too much of yourself and need to lower your sights. One of the reasons you are aiming so high is because you think you have to prove yourself to others. You don't.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Everyone is born with a special talent. If you don't know yet what yours is, it's about time you found out. What is it you do best? What is it that comes easiest to you?

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 If you stay calm while others are getting annoyed, you will make a big impression on employers and colleagues. Yes, you have leadership qualities. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption contest

GEORGE FREY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WIN!

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CHARLES KRUPA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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$21,895♦ ALL-IN PRICE PLUS HST

BEST-SELLING IMPORT SUV IN CANADA∞

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5-year/100,000 km Comprehensive Limited Warranty
5-year/100,000 km Powertrain Warranty
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GRADUATE REBATE PROGRAM

™The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trademarks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp. ◊Finance offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on new 2011 Tucson models with an annual finance rate of 0% for 60 months. †Finance offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on new 2011 Accent L 3 Dr 5-speed/2010 Elantra L 5-speed with an annual finance rate of 0%/0% for 84/84 months. Monthly payments are $161/$173. No down payment is required. Dealer participation of $500 for 2010 Elantra L 5-speed is included. Finance offers include Delivery and Destination of $1,495/$1,495. Fees, levies, charges and all applicable taxes (excluding HST). Registration, insurance, PPSA and license fees are excluded. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, PDE, dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. ‡Purchase or lease any 2011 Accent and receive a price adjustment of $1,600. nLeasing offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on new 2010 Elantra L 5-speed/2010 Elantra Touring GLS 6-speed manual (2010 Elantra L 5-speed for $172.58 per month for 84 months $13,530 at 0% per annum/2010 Elantra Touring GLS 6-speed manual for $184.52 per month for 84 months $14,530 at 0% per annum). Example price includes Delivery and Destination/2010 $1,495, fees, levies, charges and all applicable taxes (excluding HST). Registration, insurance, PPSA and license fees are excluded. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, PDE, dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. ††Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions. SaferCar.gov). The 5-star rating applies to all the trim levels of the 2011 Sonata produced after July 2, 2010. ∞Based on the October 2010 AIAMC report. ΔSee your dealer for eligible vehicles and full details of the Graduate Rebate Program. Certain conditions apply. Price adjustments are calculated against the lease/finance starting price. Cash purchase price for model shown: 2010 Santa Fe Limited is **$35,695**. Delivery and Destination charge of $1,780, fees, levies, charges and all applicable taxes (excluding HST) are included. Registration, insurance, PPSA and license fees are excluded. Certain conditions apply. ‡Purchase or lease any 2011 Accent and receive a price adjustment of $1,600. Delivery and Destination of $1,565. Applicable license fees, insurance, registration, PPSA, and taxes are excluded. $0 security deposit on 2011 models. 2010 Hyundai Elantra Touring GLS 6-speed manual (7.3L/100KM, City 9.7L/100KM, Hwy 6.5L/100KM) and 2011 Elantra Touring GLS 6-speed manual (7.3L/100KM, City 9.7L/100KM, Hwy 6.5L/100KM) based on 2011 Energuide rating. Fuel economy figures are used for comparison purposes only. Actual fuel efficiency may vary based on driving conditions and the addition of certain vehicle accessories. Fuel economy figures are used for comparison purposes only. ^Fuel economy comparison based on combined fuel consumption rating for the 2011 Sonata GL 6-speed manual (7.3L/100KM) and 2011 Energuide combined fuel consumption ratings for the full size vehicle class. Fuel consumption for the Sonata GL 6-speed manual (HWY: 5.7L/100KM, City: 8.7L/100KM) based on 2011 Energuide rating. Fuel economy figures are used for comparison purposes only. Actual fuel efficiency may vary based on driving conditions and the addition of certain vehicle accessories. ▲Government 5-Star Safety Ratings are part of the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.